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EXCLUSIVE

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THE TIMES

No. 64,535 THURSDAY JANUARY 7 1993 45p

'He lived for his work, to create things; he felt he'd been given a gift and he must use it'



Unbearable lightness of being: Rudolf Nureyev, who defected from the Leningrad Kirov Ballet at Paris airport in 1961, during a performance at Covent Garden

Nureyev, the 'lord of dance', dies in Paris

BY CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS AND JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

RUDOLF Nureyev, the most celebrated dancer of the post-war generation, died in Paris yesterday at the age of 54. His doctor said the cause was "cardiac complication following a devastating illness".

Nureyev, who defected from the Leningrad Kirov ballet at Paris airport in 1961, had been ailing for months and his friends reported that he was suffering from Aids.

Anthony Dowell, director of the Royal Ballet, with whom Nureyev danced for more than 20 years, often in his legendary partnership with Margot Fonteyn, said: "From the moment he arrived in the West in the 1960s, Rudolf refocused the spotlight on male dancers. All of us who were fortunate enough to be in the right place at the right time gained so much by watching and working with him."

He added: "On stage he was truly charismatic, a great star and a complete artist; offstage he was a fascinating and charming person and always so generous in sharing his knowledge and interests."

Dame Ninette de Valois, the founder of the Royal Ballet, told BBC Radio 4's *PM* programme how she saw Nureyev dance for the first time at a charity matinee. "He gave a most wonderful performance at this matinee, and all I know was, my one idea was to get him to us, to get him into England, and his one ambition was to come to London."

Asked what made Nureyev special, she said: "He had this wonderful body, marvellous feet and legs. He was very musical, very intelligent and his facility for technical work was quite remarkable. He was very, very strict about himself. He had no illusions, absolutely none."

Last night the English National Ballet dedicated its performance of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* to Nureyev, who produced one of his most acclaimed works, Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, for the company. Ivan Nagy, artistic director, said: "Rudolf Nureyev's untimely death is a great loss to the ballet world. He was truly one of the great geniuses of the 20th century. He was more inspiring than any other male dancer. Everyone in the business owes him an enormous debt."

Jack Lang, the French culture minister, called Nureyev a "lord of dance who transfigured the characters he interpreted". Maude Gosling, the British critic who had been one of Nureyev's friends since 1962, called him "the greatest dancer of our lifetime. He just lived for his work, he lived to create things: that was the first thing in his life; he felt he'd been given a gift and he must use it."

Nureyev's last public appearance was on the stage of the Paris Opera in October when he received a triumphant ovation for his production of *La Bayadère*, Marius Petipa's 19th century classic, after being helped on to the stage by two dancers. Despite repeated stays in hospital in recent months, he had also travelled between his houses in America, Paris and the Caribbean.

Wild star of the East.....5
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Row over tanker disaster blame as oil slick spreads

The enquiry into the Shetland oil disaster will focus on how to prevent a similar accident amid accusations that the tanker should have turned back two hours before it got into trouble

BY RAY CLANCY AND LIN JENKINS

AS MILLIONS of gallons of oil from the stricken tanker *Braer* spread up the Shetland coastline yesterday, a row erupted over who was to blame for the disaster.

By nightfall the slick had spread seven miles along the coast from Quendale Bay, where the beached tanker lay intact with much of her 84,500-tonne cargo of light crude still on board. The first wildlife victims were being picked up from the shoreline.

John MacGregor, the transport secretary, announced yesterday that the enquiry would examine not only the causes of the disaster but also what could have been done to prevent it. Blame is already being aimed at the Greek captain for having chosen the route in heavy weather and abandoning the vessel before salvage attempts began.

Sir Hector Monro, Scottish Office minister for environment and agriculture, visited the wreck yesterday and said the ship should have turned back: "I would have thought twice about taking a heavily laden tanker through the straits in the atrocious conditions that were prevailing."

Coastguards said that Captain Alexandros Gelis delayed for 15 minutes before accepting help while he rang the vessel's owner in New York to get permission. The tug company which tried to salvage the vessel in the minutes before she smashed on to rocks on the southern tip of the island claimed that they could have attached a tow and pulled her out of danger if the crew had stayed on board and helped.

Barry Corke, managing director of the tug company Star Offshore, said: "They were premature in taking the crew off. If a tow-wire had been attached I believe we could have pulled her clear. I'm very angry and frustrated by the whole thing." He said that the tug arrived at 9.38am, but nobody was there to help. The ship ran aground at 11.15am.

Captain Gelis, on Athens Sky Radio, attributed all blame to delays in the tugs reaching the Liberian-registered tanker, and said that they could have come an hour and a half earlier. He described how the vessel waited dead in the water, tossed on the stormy seas: "We started making shore contact. We were only ten miles from the rocks, and within three hours the ship fell next to them.

"We asked for help from the Shetland Islands coastguard and they told us it would take five hours to get to us. I told them that in five hours the ship would be in trouble, and they told us: 'We'll see what we can do.'"

He left on a rescue helicopter on the advice of his chief engineer and the coastguard, but returned when conditions improved. "But when we went back, it was too late. The ship had already hit the rocks in the stern and fuel was pouring, but not cargo fuel. The bow had already run aground and the fore trim of the ship was already spewing sand and not oil." Captain Gelis has been questioned by police and will face more questions during the enquiry by the transport department's Marine Accident Investigation Branch.

Mike Hudner, chief execu-

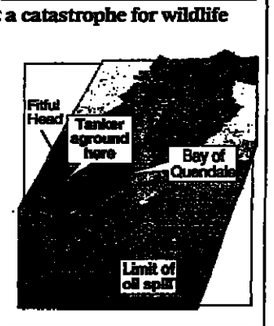
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CHRIS HARRIS



Trouble on oiled waters: a seal swims near the tanker as environmentalists forecast a catastrophe for wildlife



Credit offer for first homes

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND JILL SHERMAN

FIRST-time buyers will be offered cash help to become home owners under bold proposals to be studied by John Major at a Chequers meeting starting this weekend.

The scheme, being floated by ministers and the Downing Street policy unit, is intended to revive the moribund housing market and accelerate a wider recovery after three years of recession during which the economy has been weighed down by a slump in the property market.

Under the proposal, first-time buyers would be offered either grants or loans as deposits on home purchases. Council tenants are already offered cash inducements, averaging £17,000 in London, to move out of rented property, buy a home and make room for the homeless. The proposed scheme is being presented by ministers as an extension of that idea: they say it is cheaper to offer the incentive than to build new homes or to put up homeless families in bed-and-breakfast accommodation. In the first three years of the council incentive scheme about 5,000 tenants received grants totalling £80 million.

The idea of help for first-time buyers is at an early stage, and details such as duration, eligibility and means-testing remain to be worked out.

After the home ownership boom of the 1980s, many young people have suffered badly in the property slump, which has left a million households owing more than the value of their properties. Ministers regard persuading a new generation of potential home owners to move into the market as critical to a revival of activity more generally.

The weekend policy meeting comes in the wake of the prime minister's admission last week that he has not spelt out clearly enough the direction of his leadership. The high-powered gathering will be seen by Conservative MPs, who return to Westminster on Monday, as a signal of Mr Major's determination to reassert his authority; it will also be seen as a proving ground for new ideas.

Major meets aides, page 6

Allied 'ultimatum' for Iraq over missiles

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE United States, France and Britain have embarked on a new showdown with President Saddam Hussein that will lead swiftly to military action if he does not remove surface-to-air missiles threatening aircraft enforcing the "no-fly zone" over south Iraq.

The allies, with Russian support, were delivering a demand to Saddam that the missiles be withdrawn north of the 32nd parallel immediately. A Whitehall source said yesterday: "We would expect to see an ultimatum within the next 24 hours."

US officials said failure to comply would trigger allied strikes, against the missile batteries or possibly Iraqi air bases outside the zone.

Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, said: "We do not intend to tolerate continued violations" of UN resolutions by Iraq. Officials noted that Saddam had backed down in similiar situations in the past.

But Ali Hassan al-Majid, Iraq's defence minister, was defiant and said that his country had recovered from the Gulf war and was ready to "liberate" territory in the north and south, where the coalition partners have intervened to protect local populations.

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Shetland's oil catastrophe: safety regulations come under scrutiny as the islanders begin to realise

Ship's captain accused of charting dangerous course

RUSSELL BOYCE



Clean sweep: a Dakota sprays oil-dispersing chemicals on the seven-mile slick spilling from the stricken *Brаer* in the Bay of Quendale. Six aircraft are being used

BY LIN JENKINS

THE captain of the *Braer* was accused yesterday of taking a short cut through dangerous water in an effort to save time and money.

The seamen's union said that the vessel should not have passed through the 22-mile strait between Fair Isle and Shetland in such conditions. Much of the coastline is protected by a ban on vessels over 5,000 tonnes gross from coming within specified distances of the shore, in places up to ten miles.

Tony McGregor, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers, said he would be pressing the government to introduce a ban on ships of over 15 years old approaching parts of Britain. "They do it in Australia and parts of Norway, so there is no reason why the government cannot act independently. It does not need international co-operation."

The exclusion zone adopted by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) two years ago, at Britain's request, was clearly not adequate, he said. "The captain still has a duty not to put the vessel in a position where it could cause a hazard. In these conditions, he should not have been there."

The IMO said that the *Braer* was not in breach of the exclusion zone when its engines failed. "She broke down outside this area, but it is for the enquiry to establish if she was in British or international waters." Roger Kohn, a spokesman, said.

Alec Bilney, of the International Chamber of Shipping, said that the vessel was taking the most direct route. "Most ships look for the shortest convenient route, rather as you would do in a car. This strait is a perfectly normal route from the North Sea to

THE ROUTE

the Atlantic. It is a big gap with deep water, and not congested."

He said that the type of weather forecast used by the ship should be an area of investigation. Many vessels, particularly those under flags of convenience, buy only three-day forecasts rather than the more expensive ten-day predictions.

Paul Roberts, of Ocean-routes, which provides ships with routes, said that, in poor conditions, a ship bound for Canada from Norway might go through the English Channel. Not only would this increase the cost, but the Channel is more crowded than the strait between Shetland and Fair Isle.

Mr McGregor's union wants the adoption of a recommendation, made in a House of Lords report a year ago, to create a marine body similar to the Civil Aviation Authority to investigate shipping accidents. Since the *Braer* is Liberian-registered, the government is under no obligation to hold an enquiry.

Mr McGregor added that the use of mixed crews, in this case Greek, Polish and Filipino, raised cause for concern. "In a panic, people revert to their native tongues."

☐ A flotilla of salvage tugs, with trained crews, should be on 24-hour international standby to prevent accidents such as the grounding of the *Braer*, salvage operators said yesterday. They urged governments to help to arrest a decline in the number of tugs capable of intercepting tankers in distress.

Only France and South Africa have such ships on permanent standby. They are funded by central government. Britain's last dedicated salvage tug was sold abroad in 1989 because its owners could no longer afford the overheads in the face of dwindling business.

Giant booms, skimmers and pumps will tackle slick

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 70 tonnes of some of the world's best oil slick fighting technology was sent from Southampton to the Shetlands.

Six lorries carrying booms, anchors, vacuum pumps and oil-skimming equipment will make their way to Aberdeen and then by ferry to the islands. They should be there later today.

Yesterday six Dakota aircraft began to spray the slick. The equipment came from the Oil Spill Service Centre which has been on standby since the *Braer* sent its distress signal on Tuesday.

Dr Robin Perry, who was involved in the airlift and deployment of oil fighting equipment in the Gulf during

CLEAN-UP

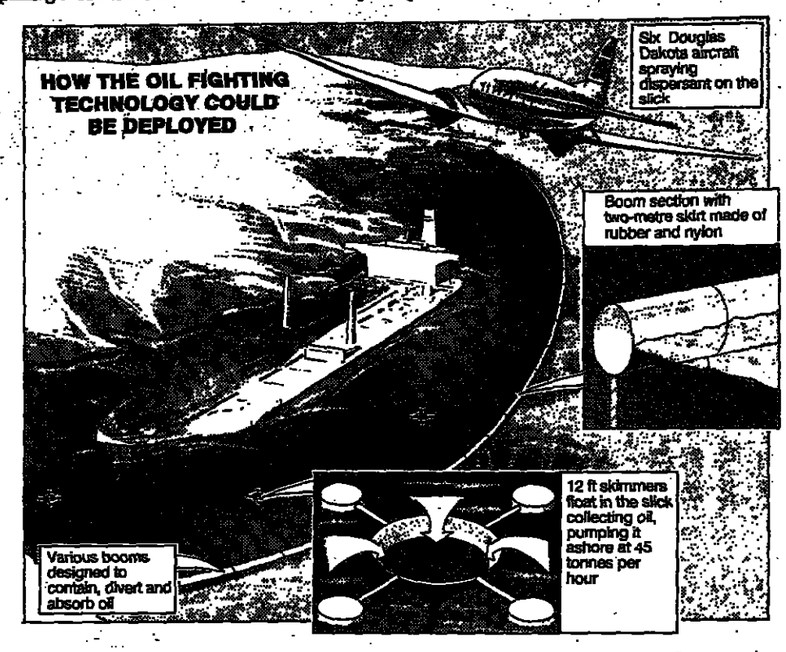
the 1991 war, flew to Sumburgh airport late yesterday. A spokesman for the centre, which is funded by international oil companies, said it expected to deploy some equipment protecting sensitive nature sites and fish farms. It could also be used to form a protective screen to contain oil spilling away from the broken hull.

Ocean booms 1,700 yards long have been sent. The booms are two-chambered structures made of chloroprene rubber and can be used to channel oil to a collection point.

They have air-filled tanks under which are either water-filled chambers or skirts which lie more than 6ft below the surface. There are also shallower inshore booms, of which 2,500 yards have been sent.

The centre has also sent 700 yards of last defence, absorbent, booms made of nylon or woodchip pads held by "hair nets". These booms can soak up oil 25 times their own weight.

Several types of skimmer have been sent. These include weir skimmers that sit in the water on four floats while oil spills over the edge into a cup. This is then pumped onshore at a rate of 45 tonnes an hour. Buoys and lighting equipment are also being taken



Tories 'were told of risk in 1991'

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

THE government was told almost two years ago that its contingency plans for a big oil spill in Shetland were inadequate, the MP for Orkney and Shetland said yesterday.

Jim Wallace, a Liberal Democrat, said he had written to Patrick McLoughlin, then the shipping minister, in April 1991 urging the government to take a lead in minimising the risk of pollution disasters. He referred specifically to the Sullom Voe oil terminal in Shetland and called the government's attitude "disturbingly complacent."

Mr Wallace said: "The government has largely ignored the dangers of a major spill off the UK coast — now it looks as if the Shetland islanders will have to pay over many

WARNINGS

years for the government's complacency." Chris Smith, Labour's environmental protection spokesman, said that the government should have introduced unilateral legislation restricting movement of single-hulled tankers in UK waters.

The government has maintained that measures should be taken multilaterally through the International Maritime Organisation, which last year agreed draft rules on the construction of new tankers and the conversion of old tankers to make them less prone to spills. However, these will not come into force for several years.

Recommendations made by a House of Lords committee on ship safety after the Alaskan spill could have prevented the Shetland disaster, said Lord Carver, who chaired the sub-committee of the Lords science and technology committee. A call for mandatory inspection of ships entering ports of the Paris club of European coastal nations would have reduced the danger.

The *Braer* had all the characteristics of a high-risk ship, Lord Carver said. It was not owned by the oil company concerned, Ultramar; it sailed under a Liberian flag of convenience, and its Polish and Filipino crew, led by a Greek captain, did not have a shared language.

Accident highlights hidden dangers of ships registered cheaply overseas

THE wreck of the *Braer* has highlighted concern about the safety standards imposed by states which offer flags of convenience (Lin Jenkins writes).

Like 12.5 per cent of the world's shipping the stricken tanker was registered in Liberia, a country which has collapsed into anarchy. Because they lack the necessary expertise that goes with a strong maritime tradition, the Liberians contract out compulsory survey and examination work to foreign commercial organisations. The *Braer* was surveyed by the Norwegian Det Norske Veritas register, which has a good international reputation.

The cost advantages of registering a vessel under a flag of convenience are high. A ship registered in the UK with a full British crew would cost about £2,000 a day, plus a further £300 for extra costs such as pensions. The overall cost would fall to £800 a day if registration were moved to Liberia and a Filipino crew taken on.

The merchant navy officers' union Numast said yesterday that the disaster on the Shetland coast was exactly the one they had predicted. A spokesman, Andrew Linington said: "We have told the government for years that this would happen. It had the two factors you find in most casualties: that the ship was an old one

FLAGS OF CONVENIENCE

and sailing under a flag of convenience."

The union will be asking the government to promote the Red Ensign as a flag and to take steps to prevent sub-standard ships from operating around the coasts of Britain.

"We are not saying there was anything wrong with the *Braer*. However, 65 per cent of losses occur with ships over 16 years old and Liberia has one of the worst casualty records of the 150 maritime nations," said Mr Linington.

When the *Braer* was built in Japan in 1975 1,640 ships were registered in London; now there are fewer than 300. Restrictions on manning, rigorous safety standards and poor tax incentives have made the open registers of Liberia, Panama, the Bahamas and the Cayman Islands more attractive.

Just 30 per cent of foreign ships are inspected when they reach a British port and of these 60 per cent are found to have defects. The number detained for faults to be repaired has trebled in recent years. "These countries use classification societies which are commercial organisations and the standards vary. There is not much confidence in the safety of some of these vessels," said Mr Linington.

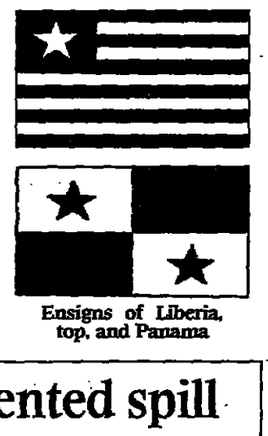
The International Maritime Organisation, the UN body which governs world shipping, has recognised the problem. A new sub-committee dealing with the implementation of standards by flag states has been set up to produce guidelines and make sure they are adhered to.

Roger Kohn of the IMO said: "There is a concern about standards generally. The number of countries operating ships are increasing and they have not had the experience of the maritime nations. Nobody wants to see a fleet from a country with a good record decline in favour of one which does not."

Alec Bilney, marine adviser at the International Chamber of Shipping, said it was expensive to register a ship under the Red Ensign but registration under a cheaper flag had no bearing on the *Braer* disaster.

"She was a well found ship with a well found company and classed by a well known classification company," he said.

"She simply broke down in a place where the tide and weather swept her to the rocks. Had it been the other way she would have been swept through the gap."

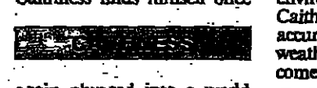


Ensigns of Liberia, top, and Panama

Minister for strife in deep water again

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

EARLIER in his ministerial career, the 20th Earl of Caithness was given responsibility by Margaret Thatcher for introducing the doomed football identity card bill into the Lords, despite his self-confessed ignorance of and indifference towards the game. Now shipping minister, Lord Caithness finds himself once



again plunged into a world with which he has little natural affinity. The tempestuous, oily waters off the Shetlands will make an unlikely backdrop for this most blue-blooded minister, whose family seat is in Oxfordshire and whose peerage was created in 1485.

The Shetland oil disaster is the latest in a list of political tests for Lord Caithness, 44. During previous ministerial incarnations he has also been responsible for criminal justice reforms, the poll tax, water privatisations and housing, all of which provoked revolts in the Lords.

From the time of his first appointment in 1984 as a government whip and spokesman in the Lords on health, social security and Scottish and foreign affairs, Lord Caithness has won a reputation as a hard-working minister.

Now thrust into the limelight as the minister responsible for reacting to a potential environmental disaster, Lord Caithness will need all his accumulated knowledge to weather the political storm to come. Red Adair he is not.

Diary, page 14



Caithness: tackling another tricky job

Double hull would not have prevented spill

BY SARAH BAGNALL AND NICK NUTTALL

ALTHOUGH the loss of the Braer has stoked the already heated debate over whether tankers with double hulls are safer, both camps agree that such a design would not have prevented this disaster.

America is leading the world in requiring double hulls, with most other countries allowing alternative "approved" systems. In the States, under legislation from 1990, ships which will be delivered after January 1 1994, or on which building started after June 30 1990, have to have double hulls. In Britain all ships ordered after July must have either double hulls or an alternative system deemed to be as safe. Double hulls are said to be more effective in shallow seas with sandy bottoms, common around the US, but less effective in rocky waters, such as those around the Shetlands.There are only about 100 double-hull tankers out of a total fleet of nearly 4,000, according to figures from the 1992 Clarkson Tanker Register. The cost of building a double hull is estimated at between $100 million and $140 million, compared with $80 million for a single-hull

SAFETY

ship. Questions are also asked about how water got into the ship's fuel lines, shutting down the engines. The contamination may have occured because of the rough weather but owners are also becoming increasingly concerned over the number of firms selling bad fuel and accident investigators are being asked to check the quality of the *Braer's* fuel.

Michael Grey of *Lloyd's List* said there were now more "cowboys in the industry than there were in the Wild West". Paul Holbrook, an expert in the fluid analytical consultancy service department of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, said that over recent years there had been a sharp decline in the quality of marine fuel. Studies by his department had shown that of the 140 million tonnes loaded annually about 93 per cent meets international quality standards, but 7 per cent is contaminated.

It is too early to assess the size of insurance claims from the accident, but pollution liability is expected to be limited to below $100 million, despite insurance cover of up to $700 million. Skuld, the Norwegian protection and indemnity club, will cover the first $2 million of claims, with the next $13 million covered by a pooling arrangement with the other existing 15 international P&I clubs, which are operated by tanker owners and ship owners to provide cover against hefty marine claims. The bulk of the reinsurance cover is placed in the London market, predominantly at Lloyd's.

Row over blame as slick spreads

Continued from page 1

tive of B & H Ship Management, the American owner, praised the captain, who has worked for it for three months, for his "exemplary, competent, prudent and heroic" manner. The disaster was a "regretable accident" and he would not hesitate to send a ship by the same route.

When questioned closely, he said that he would have to think carefully before again using the strait between Shetland and Fair Isle, but there was no reason why tankers laden with crude should not use established international shipping channels.

Mr Hudner denied that the delay in accepting help from coastguards had contributed to the disaster. The matter had to be discussed with underwriters, and it took only 15 minutes before he was given permission to accept.

Bob Driver, regional controller of the coastguard search and rescue in Aberdeen, said his prime concern had been the crew's safety. The operation seemed simple in hindsight, but the priority had to be the 34 crew members. "With persons to be winched off and the vessel making steady progress towards the shore, the sensible decision is to get the crew off. My prime concern is the safety of life."

As DC3s from the Marine Pollution Control Unit stopped spraying the sea with dispersants shortly after 3pm because of fading light, Capt George Sutherland, Shetland director of marine operations, said it was impossible to estimate how much oil had escaped. Lord Caithness, shipping minister, said: "One might have to expect the worst and say perhaps half of it has come out and half remains."

Oil-laden spray is polluting crops and pasture on the Shetland Isles near where the *Braer* went aground. Some farmers have moved sheep and cattle inland to uncontaminated grazing. At least one has had his vegetable crop condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Willie Mainland said: "Local environmental health officers have told me I cannot sell any more of my swedes and cabbages, which I normally harvest throughout the winter." He estimates the ban could cost him £10,000 in lost sales.

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Leading article, page 15

CORRECTION

The Tomlinson report on the future of London hospitals did not, as stated on December 14, recommend the closure of University College and Middlesex hospitals, but their merger on a redeveloped UCH site.

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the devastating consequences for wildlife, the environment and an economy crippled by pollution

Elements give best hope of clearing Shetland spill

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

WILDLIFE experts from across Britain and the world were yesterday travelling in large numbers towards the Shetlands in an attempt to save animals and birds caught up in the oil spill.

Offers of help arrived from as far afield as Alaska and New Zealand. Birds, otters, seals and salmon are the high-profile species which are threatened by the slick, but in the long run it is nature and not the volunteers who will restore the natural balance in the islands.

"Sometimes the best, and ironically the most difficult thing to do in the face of an ecological disaster is to do nothing," said one of the scientists who studied the *Exxon Valdez* clean-up.

Yesterday was too soon to assess how damaging the incident is likely to be, though that did not stop environmental and conservation groups describing it in apocalyptic terms. Experience shows, however, that the marine environment has a remarkable capacity to recover from oil spills. Within a year or two, there may be little evidence of the disaster.

CONTROL

Earlier incidents also suggest that in some cases the least done, soonest mended. After the *Torrey Canyon* and *Exxon Valdez* oil spills, aggressive attempts to clean the beaches did more damage than the oil. That was not advice being heeded yesterday by the bird and animal rescue organisations.

The Shetland spill is large, but not unprecedented. Assuming all 84,500 tonnes leaks from the tanker — by no means certain yet — the disaster will be intermediate in scale between the *Exxon Valdez* (40,000 tonnes) and the *Torrey Canyon* (119,000 tonnes). It will be less than half as large as the *Amoco Cadiz*, which grounded off Brittany in 1978, and almost insignificant when compared with the deliberate leaking of a million tonnes of oil by Iraq during the Gulf war of 1991.

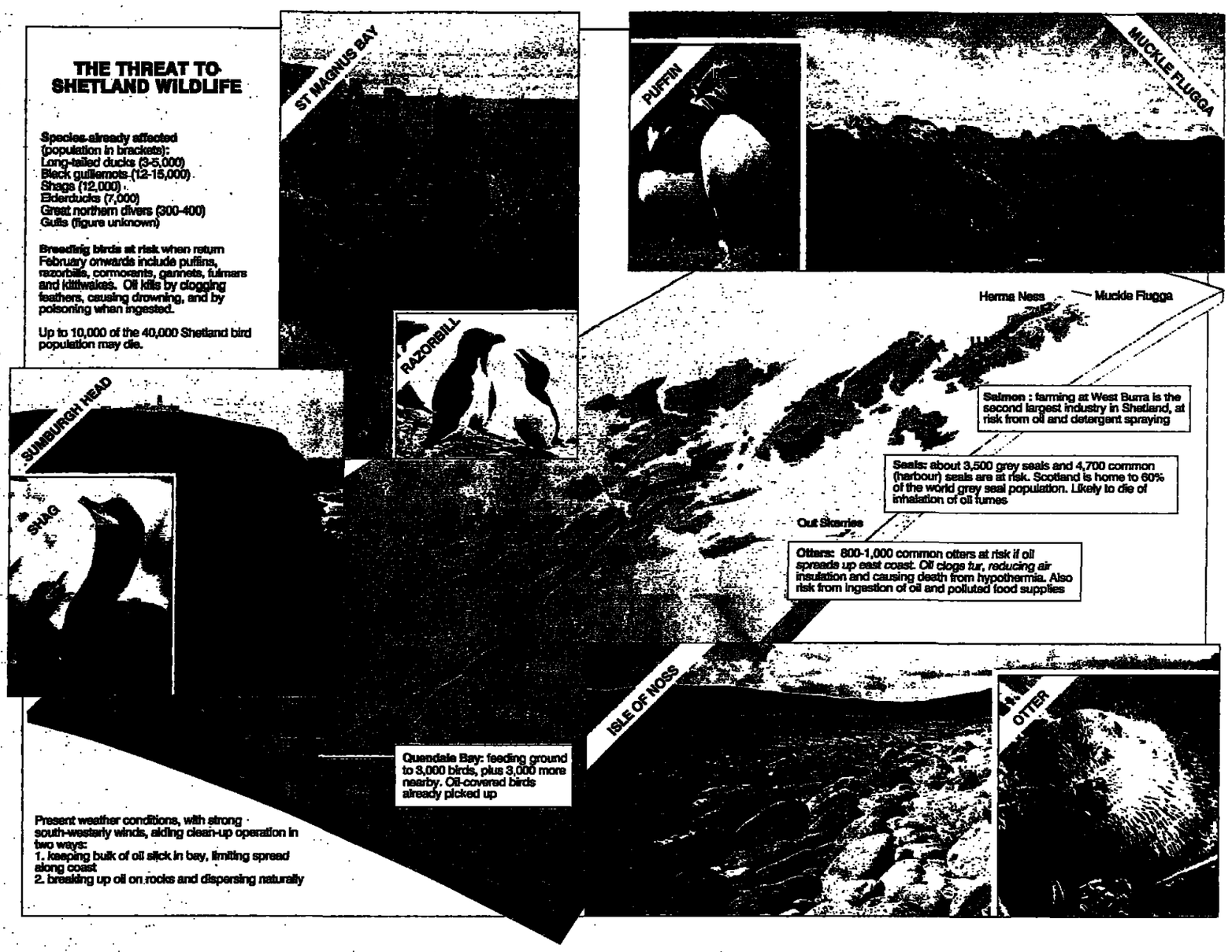
Special factors in the Shetlands may minimise the impact of the disaster. First, the oil is light and will evaporate readily, dispersing as much as 70 per cent into the atmosphere. Secondly, the oil is not contained in relatively calm waters, as was the case in Alaska when the *Exxon Valdez* grounded. The violence of the weather has ensured that it is well mixed with sea water, which provides the best chance for naturally occurring organisms to break it up.

A scientific expedition to the Gulf last summer showed how quick and effective this process can be. The scientists on board the American research ship *Mount Mitchell* found few traces of oil in the sea. Only three out of 180 dives found any trace at all. The beaches, by contrast, remained badly contaminated and will take years to recover.

The clean-up of the sea had been accomplished unaided by microbes that live on oil. These organisms are found everywhere, and rapidly multiply after an oil spill. That they exist at all is evidence that not all oil pollution of the sea is man-made. Natural seepage of oil is common in nature, enabling a large number of bacteria and other micro-organisms to have evolved to live on hydrocarbons. They convert the oil into carbon dioxide, water and other harmless products.

If this were not so, the seas would be filthy, for each year some two million tonnes of oil enter the world's oceans. About half comes from river run-off, much of it spent engine oil which careless motorists pour down the drains. A quarter comes from non-tanker shipping, and a quarter from seepages. Accidental spills from tankers or offshore operations amount to less than a fifth of the total.

As a result, the sea is already primed with the microbes which will break up the Shetland slick. They may be helped by feeding them with extra nutrients to allow them to grow faster. Sea water is low in the inorganic compounds — nitrogen, phosphorus and iron — that the microbes need. These can be supplied by fertilisers which lock on the oil droplets, ensuring that the nutrients are in the right place to encourage the microbes. In Alaska, fertiliser pellets of this sort speeded the oil degradation by a factor of three, without injuring any marine life. It was much more effective than scouring the beaches with warm water, which had the effect of killing mussels, clams, seaweed and the very bacteria needed to degrade the oil.



Disaster threatens to leave seas silent and empty

BY DERWENT MAY

THE birds most immediately at risk off the Shetland Islands are two species of sea duck — the long-tailed duck and the eider — and the great northern divers. There are large numbers of these species on the sea off the sheltered east coast of the main island, especially in the inlet called the Pool of Virkie.

The long-tailed ducks are winter visitors from the Arctic. They ride in flocks on the water, and their mingled calls sound from the shore like distant bagpipes or the baying of hounds. The great northern divers are also mainly winter visitors, probably from Greenland. They are elegant, fast-diving birds, that float with their bodies under water and only their heads showing. If they are seriously affected, their absence will be felt in faraway places in the spring, and next winter the northern seas will be more silent and empty.

The eiders are an important breeding species in the Shetlands, laying their eggs in their own soft down in holes along the sandy shore. They are already courting, the brilliant white drakes throwing their heads back and lifting themselves out of the water in front of the females.

A hundred years of oil spills has not been long enough for these seabirds to evolve any recognition of the danger. If they dive because they have been touched by a patch of oil, they will come up again in another patch, and quickly become coated. If they try to clean themselves, they will swallow the oil and be poisoned. Corpses of these species are already being washed ashore.

Another important breeding bird on the islands is the shag. Almost 10,000 pairs of these small cormorants nest on the cliffs each summer, and many of them are still around, fishing in the sea or standing like heraldic figures with their wings spread to dry on the rocks. They are evidently in considerable danger too. No one will forget the famous picture of an oiled cormorant during the Gulf war.

Luckily the main contingent of cliff-nesters — common guillemots and razorbills — are absent. In mild Januaries they often visit their breeding ledges in the morning, but the weather that wrecked the tanker has also kept them out at sea. The puffins that nest on the cliff-tops are also still out on the sea. All these species will soon be arriving. The smaller black guillemots feed on and among weed on the seabed but come close inshore at night. Little auks are usually thoroughly pelagic in the winter, but already one has been washed up, oiled and dead.

Many purple sandpipers and turnstones feed on the shoreline among the rocks, which are also the home of numerous rock pipits. On the sandy shores further north there are concentrations of curlews and redshanks, and if the oil comes ashore there it will hamper their feeding and

BIRD RESCUE

perhaps trap some of them. Gulls that settle on the water may also be oiled, though the herring gulls are such serious predators on other breeding birds in the summer that there are conservationists who will be stony-hearted about that. The Arctic terns that are such a feature of the island birdlife in summer are luckily still in the Antarctic.

The effect of the oil on fish and on marine creatures such as mussels, limpets, crabs and sea anemones is also important. These populations would probably be replaced quite quickly, but they are important as food for the birds of the coast. Poisoned, or dead, they will not have much to offer.

Organisations such as the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Scottish Wildlife Trust recognise that the cleaning of oiled birds is more of a solace to distressed humans than a useful activity for the birds themselves. Perhaps 10 per cent of the oiled birds in a big disaster are picked up, and of the cleaned birds perhaps 5 per cent survive.

The Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is preparing to take as many as it can to a cleaning centre in Fife. They will select the birds that seem to have the best chances of survival.

The Shetlands are also home to substantial numbers of otters. The two main colonies are some way up the east coast and perhaps have a fair hope of escaping. But the otters feed on fish in the sea, and have to cross the beach to get from their holes. Oil and tar could bring disaster to them. Common and grey seals are in some danger, too.

Professor Aubrey Manning, the chairman of the Scottish Wildlife Trust, said his organisation had made many pressing representations to the authorities to impose a ban on tankers taking short cuts round the Scottish coast. The *Braer* was taking a short cut between the Shetlands and Orkney.

Where Professor Manning fears there will soon be another disaster, both for wildlife and for man, is in the Minch, the channel between the Inner and Outer Hebrides, where there is a heavy traffic of tankers.

Sanctuary ready for the worst

BY IAN MURRAY

OTTERS contaminated by oil from the wreck of the *Braer* stand little chance of survival even if they are caught and cleaned, according to experts from the Vincent Wildlife Trust, which specialises in protecting the species.

Jim Green, who runs a sanctuary for the trust with his wife Rosemary near Newton Stewart in Dumfries and Galloway, was gloomily preparing yesterday to receive the first casualties picked up during the morning on the east coast of Shetland.

"We have been hoping against hope this would not happen, but now we have to face the worst," he

CLEAN-UP

said. "We are unlikely to catch many of those who are affected and I will be happy if 10 per cent of those we do get live to go back into the wild."

There are estimated to be about 700 to 900 otters on Shetland, roughly as many as in the whole of England and Wales.

"This is a tragedy which we have seen coming and have been shouting about privately to the oil companies and government for some time," Mr Green said.

The trust has sent an inspector to Shetland to decide which animals stand the best chance of surviving treatment. The rest will be destroyed.

GEORGE WILKIE



Watery grave: the *Braer's* funnel stands like an orange tombstone above the waves that drove her on to the rocks and are carrying away her deadly cargo

The grim and grimy search for Braer's early victims

BY RAY CLANCY

THE sickening stench of oil hung over Shetland last night, a foul legacy of one of Britain's worst oil disasters. As I waded through the murky brown waves lapping the beach at the Bay of Quendale my feet squashed the bloated corpses of fish as bodies of seabirds littered the rocks.

Hundreds of local people were combing the beaches, throwing dead birds into black sacks. "I am sickened. We have had small slicks here before but this is just devastation," said Kathleen Young, a council worker who began the clean-up at first light.

I walked with her, picking up the dead birds. Our mouths, eyes, noses and hair were splattered with the deadly oil. The smell was overpowering and the taste of oil sharp and sickly, a taste that will not disappear for many days. Rocks, sand, grass, everything was covered by the slimy mess.

Six pollution-control air-

CRAFT

craft flew continually along the seven-mile length of the slick, spewing out detergent from 6ft above the waves in an attempt to help the natural dispersion process.

Round the head at Garths Ness, the tanker appeared still to be rocking in the mountainous seas. People gathered at the top of the cliffs to watch her oily cargo bleed out, the dirty orange funnel the only recognisable part of the battered structure. Emotions were running high among local people. Michael Millar, member of an environmental group, said that he picked up hundreds of birds during the first two hours of daylight. "It is the most sickening sight I have ever seen. Words cannot describe what I feel. The most devastating thing is that it was avoidable."

He clutched an oil-covered shag that was barely living. Asked if it would survive, he replied: "It is unlikely. She is well covered and will probably have digested oil as well. That's what kills them."

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds set up an emergency hospital at Boddam. But hundreds more birds lay beyond help in the black sacks.

'Let nature take its course'

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

SALMON farmers, fishermen and fish processors yesterday appealed for restraint in the use of chemicals, saying nature should be given a chance to get rid of the oil. "Physical containment measures, combined with natural break-up, are much preferable to indiscriminate use of dispersants," they said in a statement.

A third of the Shetland work force of 10,400 is employed in the catching, processing and farming of fish. About a quarter of Britain's farmed salmon comes from the Shetland Islands and it is prized

FISH FARMS

because the waters are usually so clean. Sales from the 58 farms are worth £34 million a year, almost half the value of all fish caught and processed in the islands.

Jimmy Moncrieff, chief executive of Shetland Salmon Farmers' Association, said: "The worst thing would be if they use dispersants on the oil. Dispersants, which are themselves toxic, emulsify the oil and disperse it down through the water column so that the salmon can ingest it. While the oil stays on the surface, the salmon are not much affected. Booms can also be placed round cages to prevent the oil going in."

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I regret absolutely nothing, said dance star who kept up Bohemian lifestyle almost to the end

Wild star of the East found fame on the Western stage

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

RUDOLF Nureyev, the Tartar village boy who became the first male ballet superstar, died refusing to believe his time had run out. Visibly wasting for the past two years, Nureyev travelled incessantly between his homes in Paris, New York, Italy and the Caribbean and worked as hard as he could almost until the end.

"I'm planning to direct films and the first one will be in Russia," he said in November after his triumph at the Paris Opera, where he was virtually carried on stage to receive a hero's reception and a government decoration at the opening night of his production of *La Bayadere*.

"I regret absolutely nothing," he told visitors to his bedside at his flat in Paris, the city where he sought political asylum in June 1961. Then he was a young lead with the Kirov ballet, renowned for his wild features, athletic prowess and extraordinary stage presence.

Nureyev's doctor, Michel Canesi, said the dancer died of "cardiac complications following a devastating illness". He would divulge no more "following M Nureyev's wishes", a reflection of Nureyev's refusal to comment on the Aids condition widely reported by his friends.

A proud man who felt slighted by comparisons with Nijinsky, Rimbaud, Jagger and other wild icons of their age, Nureyev would have revelled in the tributes that flowed in from around the world last night. The one that might have meant most to him came from Maude Gosling, the London dance critic and a friend since 1962, who said: "I think he'll be remembered as the greatest dancer of our lifetime."

Most of Nureyev's other close friends, such as Margot Fonteyn, Leonard Bernstein and Erik Bruhn, died before him. "Everybody's dropping off the tree," he said recently. "There are fewer and fewer friends and so you just wait till *you drop off.*" *It was with* Bruhn, the Danish dancer, that Nureyev had one of the most passionate relationships in a life that was given to few lasting attachments and much abandon.

In recent years he had grown bitter about the increasingly cool response to his relentless drive to keep dancing at an age when other masters had retired behind the scenes. In New York two years ago, where he could get only a suburban theatre to stage another of his farewell tours, he wandered through Central Park railing at the ignorance of critics such as the

All his life he had been an outsider

man from *The Boston Globe*, who had referred to his "sodden leaps by legs that can no longer stretch".

All his life Nureyev had felt an outsider. He was a lonely child who became a vagabond, as he put it, regarding the stage as his home. Russia, where he was born on a train crossing Siberia, lingered powerfully in his character. He never lost the accent or made much concession to foreign syntax. His mercurial mood shifts from rage to a boyish charm hailed from the blood of the Steppes, which he left at 17 when he won a scholarship to the Kirov in Leningrad. "For me a country is just a place to dance," he said. "Your roots are your work. Work is sacred."

His greatest period of happiness, he said, was during the explosion of his early stardom in the 1960s when he danced with Margot Fonteyn and the Royal Ballet. At their peak, on one night in 1964, they took more than 50 curtain-calls. The two stars drew, he said, on his animal power and her mixture of "radiance and vulnerability". *Fonteyn had no* successor to her greatness, he said. "It was equality of talents."

Although he was a huge success, Nureyev felt constantly rejected. Despite a triumphant return in 1989, he never forgave Russia for regarding him as a traitor and claimed his late mother was mistreated. Covent Garden, he insisted, had banished him to promote inferior British dancers. His stint as director of the Paris Opera ballet ended in dispute after six difficult years in 1989, although he was a guest choreographer last year.

Lately Nureyev had turned his hand to conducting and had been learning to play the piano. In his flat in New York he worked into the night on a Victorian organ and electronic keyboards he took with him on his travels. He never wrote an autobiography, saying it was too painful to rake over the past. Peter Brooke, national heritage secretary, said he was saddened by the news of Nureyev's death. The Labour national heritage spokesman, Robin Corbett, said: "A bright and triumphant star of dance and music has gone out. His talent and enthusiasm will inspire a new generation of dancers."

Christopher Gable, a contemporary of Nureyev's at the Royal Ballet and now artistic director of the Northern Ballet Theatre, of which Nureyev was artist laureate and a regular guest dancer, said: "The talent that flowed from his inspiration is the best epitaph he could have wished for. I prefer not to remember the image of Nureyev in recent months, but that of the incandescent star who burst into our lives 30 years ago."

Peter Wright, director of the Birmingham Royal Ballet, said: "Rudolf Nureyev was one of the greatest dancers of all time."

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Revolutionary performer: Nureyev turned his hand to conducting in later years and was planning to direct films

Aids claims another victim in the arts

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THE death of Rudolf Nureyev has once again brought home the vulnerability to Aids of the arts community, whose ranks over the past few years have been cruelly thinned by the spread of the disease.

Last year the art world saw the deaths, from Aids-related illnesses, of a remarkable swathe of talent, including the actor Anthony Perkins (of *Psycho* fame) and the British actor Denholm Elliott. The playwright Scott McPherson also died.

The dance and ballet communities have suffered particularly. Glenn White, of the Joffrey Ballet, and Clark Tippet, principal dancer of the American Ballet Theatre, both died last year, as did the song-and-dance performer Peter Allen at the age of 48.

Sports — with the much-publicised announcements by "Magic" Johnson and Arthur Ashe that they had contracted Aids — and the arts are the two areas of American life where the depredations of Aids have been brought home most forcibly, but last year also saw the deaths of a number of Aids activists, including Alison Gertz, the 26-year-old who contracted the disease after a brief sexual relationship at the age of 16 and became a media celebrity as a result of her efforts to educate others.

Every December, members of the New York artistic community hold a "Day Without Art" to raise awareness of the number of artists and performers who are being lost to the disease. The demonstration is organised by a group of volunteer arts professionals called Visual Aids. The most recent such event drew more than 6,000 cultural and Aids-related organisations. To mark the occasion, many of New York's art galleries closed their doors.

Many of New York's cultural and artistic notables maintain that even though scores of talented artists have died from Aids, their community is still shockingly ignorant about the disease.

Unmatched virtuoso who still had so much more to give the world

Nureyev had a multitude of talents and an unquenchable appetite for work, John Percival, ballet critic, *writes*

The saddest thing about Rudolf Nureyev's death is to think how much he still had to give. Thank heaven he was able to fulfil his unsurpassed potential as a dancer: nobody in my experience has ever excelled, and very few have matched, the perfection of his work in classical ballet, but his tremendous appetite for every kind of dance took him into everything from *Swan Lake* to the *Muppet Show* and the list of choreographers who made parts for him is like an honour roll of dance in our lifetime. Watching him in so many contrasted parts over the course of three decades has been one of the most rewarding aspects of my life as a critic.

At nearly 55 that part of his career was over, at any rate his time as a virtuoso, although there were many roles he could still have played marvellously on stage (his last new part, only last year, was as the evil fairy Carabosse in his own production of *The Sleeping Beauty* in Berlin). But he was also a good choreographer, under-rated by many people perhaps because he did so many other things. Now we shall never see the many more ballets he would have created, such as the *Ondine* he had planned.

He was a director of exceptional gifts, who made the company at the Paris Opera probably the best in the world, and certainly the most exciting. Hundreds of dancers are better artists thanks to a few words of incisive comment or suggestion from him (just as thousands of spectators owe their love of dance to having seen him live or on film or television).

And his longing to become a conductor was not just a whim but something he worked on hard, seriously and with an exceptional understanding of music.

What shall I remember most vividly about him? The first thing that comes to mind is that already I can never watch the prince's solo at the end of *The Sleeping Beauty* without seeing him in my mind's eye: the unmatched grandeur and grace and power of his dancing, the way he performed every step exactly and to the full, the superb timing. Nobody else did it so well. There are other roles specially associated with him: above all, perhaps, *Marguerite and Armande*, which the choreographer Frederic Ashton wanted never to be danced by anyone but Margot Fonteyn and him.

They were a partnership the like of which we have never seen before and will never see again. There have been other pairs of dancers whose names are usually linked — some of them perhaps danced together more often than Fonteyn and Nureyev — but no other example of two unique and blazing talents, each superb, but very different from one another, coming together to make something that proved greater than either of them.

I know that this partnership, and the enduring friendship that went with it, was one of the things of which he was most proud, and understandably so.

Then there was his exceptional quality as a producer of the classics. In spite of an inbuilt resistance to his ideas, resulting from my own preference for staying as close as possible to the original concept of the works, I could not fail to admire the intelligence and imagination he brought to staging the great works of the 19th century. Even when he adapted and modified them, it was always done with an immense knowledge of the tradition and a wholly sincere, humble admiration of the genius of the Tsar's great choreographer Marius Petipa.

Who else but Nureyev ever had two productions of *Swan Lake* running simultaneously, completely different but both worked out with logic and care for the circumstances in which it was done? That happened to Nureyev when he presented his new production at the Paris Opera while the Vienna State Ballet was still giving the production he had made for them two decades earlier.

Nureyev never forgot his background: I remember him, one bitterly cold night in New York, reminiscing about boyhood in Ufa, and how it sometimes became so cold that his nose ran and the liquid turned to ice.

His homes later in London and Paris, New York and Monte Carlo were full of treasures, but somehow he seemed to inhabit them casually, like a Tartar warrior at ease in his tent.

In fact he blazed through the world of ballet and theatre like a conqueror, a modern day Genghis Khan. Yet he was at heart an immensely kind and generous man, who would go to great lengths to help a friend in need. It probably surprises people who have heard of his rages when anything interfered with his work to know that offstage he inspired most people who knew him with a protective kind of love.

There were two sides to Nureyev. On the one hand a superb intelligence, fed by reading, visiting, watching and listening to an immense variety of books, places, galleries, plays, films, operas, ballets, concerts and records.

And things remained in that incredible memory of his. When he was preparing *Manfred*, his ballet based on Byron, he read everything he could get hold of by and about the poet, then went on to apply the same process to Byron's circle of friends. Months later he could still remember and discuss Byron's minor poems.

That intelligence went, however, with an equally amazing instinct which led him to unguessable flights of imagination: "Like a creature groping in the dark, doing everything by touch and smell" the choreographer Maurice Béjart once described him to me. He added: "The combination of those qualities makes him what he is: that is why he can do absolutely anything that he really wants to do."

Anything, that is, except overcome illness. He fought it more bravely than you would think possible, culminating in his marvellous new production of *La Bayadère* in Paris only a few weeks ago. But now he has gone, and we shall not look upon his like again. What a cruel waste.



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Policy summit at Chequers

Major meets aides to thrash out party aims

BY JILL SHERMAN AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN Major will seek to counter accusations of drift and lack of leadership this weekend at a Chequers policy summit at which he will sketch out his key objectives for the rest of the Parliament.

His closest advisers and party aides have been summoned to his official residence to flesh out the Conservative programme for government. The meeting, hastily arranged just before Christmas as the prime minister emerged from his autumn battering, will also prepare the ground for two seminars to be organised by Downing Street next month on the citizen's charter and cutting red tape.

In addition to sitting in on the policy summit, Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman, will have a separate meeting with the prime minister on Sunday. This political session will plot the government's strategy for cutting Labour's 13-point opinion poll lead and finalise plans for making more drastic cuts in party staff than the 50 redundancies since the election.

The Chequers meeting follows Mr Major's admission last weekend that he has failed to spell out clearly enough the direction of his leadership. Key themes will be improving public services, strengthening the much derided citizen's charter, extending privatisation and bringing in private sector finance for public projects, getting people back to work and boosting the housing market.

One critical area of debate will be the pace of the government's existing reforms of health and education. Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, is poised to rebuff those pressing for greater freedom for GP fundholders and managers of NHS self-governing hospitals. John Patten, the education secretary, is also seen as siding with the consolidators in the debate over the powers of governors of grant-maintained schools.

Mrs Bottomley is expected to announce shortly that she has decided to retain the existing regional structure of the NHS albeit in a streamlined form. The seminar offers a last chance for the advocates of market freedom to press their case.

Tory officials admit that there has been little new thinking recently as much of the Conservative manifesto was drawn up a year before the general election. Although the legislative programme is full for the present session, the prime minister is keen to draw on ideas from the new blood in the cabinet. "The characters have changed in the last 24 months," one party official said. "This is not a consolidation exercise. The input will be radical."

Downing Street officials yesterday stressed the summit was part of a process initiated by the prime minister last July when he asked all secretaries of state to draw up a medium term programme for their departments.



MacGregor backs screened roads

BY TIM JONES

JOHN MacGregor, the transport secretary, yesterday pledged that future road building programmes and improvement schemes would be more sensitive to the environment when he launched the *Good Roads Guide*.

Intended primarily for the country's road designers, the guide will also be available to local action groups and others who wish to influence projects or to make protests at planning enquiries. Mr MacGregor estimated that if the practices outlined in the guide were followed, they would add an estimated £60 million a year to the cost of road building and improvement programmes.

The guide shows how roads should follow the contours of a landscape to blend in with the surrounding countryside and to be kept off the skyline to minimise impact. The use of mounding and cutting to screen roads from villages is also encouraged.

Designers are urged to plant native trees and shrubs to screen roads and to provide wildlife habitats. At present, the department plants about two million trees and shrubs a year.

Mr MacGregor said that the national road building programme benefited the environment by reducing congestion while towns and villages were made more attractive because of bypasses. Verges and other land alongside the national road network occupied an area the size of the Isle of Wight. "Much of it is undisturbed by humans and has become a nature reserve inhabited by insects, butterflies and small mammals," he said.

The guide shows how lighting, fencing, drainage, construction, roadside equipment and signs, and provision for wildlife can help a new road to blend with its surroundings. Examples are given of good and bad environmental practice and the guide offers design solutions that will enable engineers, landscape architects and environmental specialists to design roads that blend harmoniously with the environment and cause less noise for people living near by.



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Cook presses case for voting reform

Robin Cook, shadow trade and industry secretary, put more pressure on the Labour leadership to support proportional representation yesterday amid renewed signs that John Smith has little enthusiasm for electoral reform (Jill Sherman writes). On the eve of a two-day retreat in north London for members of the Plant commission on electoral reform, Mr Cook said that Labour would "court fresh disaster" if it ignored the issue. He described the present first-past-the-post system as undemocratic.

His intervention coincided with a survey by *New Statesman & Society* magazine which showed that most of the new intake of Labour MPs supports electoral reform. The survey, covering 52 of the 69 new Labour MPs, showed that 34 (65 per cent) were in favour of change: 13, (25 per cent) were against and 5 (10 per cent) were undecided.

IRA firebombs shops

The IRA yesterday launched its first mainland attack of the new year, setting off firebombs in four central London stores. One shop was badly damaged, but no one was injured. Coded warnings were given at about 3am by a man who claimed in one call to represent the IRA. An incendiary device set fire at 3.50am to a shop in Oxford Street being used to sell cut-price video tapes and CDs. Fire spread to a betting shop next door. There was an explosion but no fire at Dillons bookshop overlooking Trafalgar Square. Bombs went off at 4.18am in C&A and the Reject Shop in the Plaza shopping centre, also in Oxford Street, causing minor damage.

Mother's TV tears

The mother of the murdered schoolboy Benji Stanley appealed for an end to violence in Manchester's Moss Side district. Denise Stanley, 52, contacted a Granada TV phone-in and broke down as she said that she hoped her son's death would "stop another poor woman and family going through what my son, husband and I are going through". Mrs Stanley, who has lived in Moss Side for 20 years, said younger and younger children were carrying guns. "All I say to all mothers is, keep your children in. My child was allowed out from six in the evening until nine. And they shot him through the heart, not in a leg or arm, they took my boy's heart out of him."

Robbers hijack cars

Armed robbers wounded a police inspector and hijacked cars as they fled after raiding a village post office yesterday. The four men drove off from the sub post office at Mortimer Common, Berkshire, with only a small amount of money scooped from the counter after an alarm sounded. They then hijacked five cars and a lorry as they tried to shake off police. One pursuing officer suffered head injuries after shots were fired at his windscreen. The hunt continued last night in the Wokingham area.

Princess 'doing well'



Princess Margaret, right, was said to be responding well to treatment for pneumonia in the King Edward VII Hospital for Officers in London. The Queen's sister, who is 62, was admitted on Sunday and is not expected to be discharged before the weekend. Doctors are understood to be testing for malignant disease, a normal procedure for a heavy cigarette smoker of the princess's age.

Polgar leads in chess

The 16-year-old Hungarian Judit Polgar leads in the Hastings international chess tournament, having defeated both the Russian grandmasters Evgeny Bareev and Lev Polugaevski with the normally disadvantageous black pieces. With six rounds remaining the scores are: Polgar 6½pts; Bareev 6pts; Jon Speelman (England) 5pts; Matthew Sadler and John Nunn (both England) 3½pts each; Ilya Gurevich (US) and Polugaevski (Russia) both 3pts; Colin Crouch (England) 1½pts.

Cold-weather cash

About 2.5 million people are to get £6 cold-weather payments after the recent bitter weather. The money, totalling about £15 million, will go to the most vulnerable, such as the elderly, disabled and poor families with young children. The payment is triggered when the temperature is, or is forecast to be, below freezing for seven consecutive days. The weather stations reporting the freezing conditions are as far apart as Aberdeen in northeast Scotland and Boscombe Down in Dorset.

هكذا من الأصل

Nazis' victim had refused to leave job on Guernsey

FROM JOHN YOUNG IN ST PETER PORT

ONE of three Jewish residents of Guernsey who died in Auschwitz after the occupying Germans deported her had refused an offer of evacuation to the mainland shortly before the invaders arrived, it was disclosed yesterday.

At the same time the Guernsey government reacted strongly to disclosures of co-operation between the wartime civilian authorities and German occupying forces.

Graham Dorey, the Bailiff, said: "Reports of wholesale collaboration, black-marketeering and other offences grossly distort the whole character of life and of the civil administration of Guernsey during the occupation."

Miriam Mahy, who recently published a book about her experiences in occupied Guernsey, said she was appalled by what had been revealed in the official files, which were released on Tuesday. She did not believe that the names of Jews had been given willingly.

"I know what the Germans were like. They were the masters and if they said they would take 20 people away and shoot them if their orders were disobeyed, what could you do? As for the people who write these stories 50 years later, I would like to see them in charge of a small island like this under occupation."



Grunfeld: murdered in Auschwitz

The woman who refused to leave the island was Marianne Grunfeld, who came to Cambridge from Poland in the 1930s, according to a retired solicitor in London. He remembers her from his childhood. She was employed by his aunt as a kennelmaid, learnt English and went to Reading University in 1936 where she gained a diploma in agriculture.

She moved to Guernsey only about two weeks before the invasion to work at Duvaux Farm, owned by a Mr Ogier. When it became clear that invasion was inevitable she was offered a passage back to England, but refused because she was anxious to stay in her job.

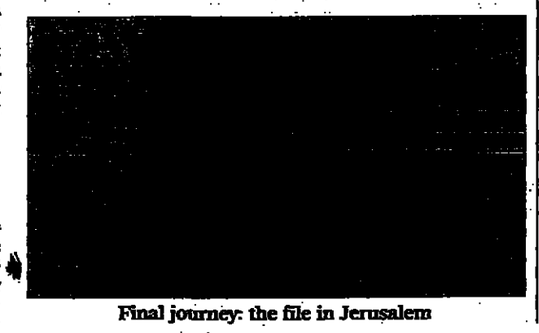
Although her name appears on a list of foreigners living in Guernsey in the late summer of 1940, it was not one of the five names of Jews supplied to the German authorities by the Bailiff, Victor Carey, and the president of the civilian controlling committee, John Leale, the next November.

She was evidently identified as Jewish and protested strongly when, on German orders, her passport was stamped with a large J in red ink. In 1941 she was ordered to report to the Germans and, despite the efforts of M. Ogier, who offered to adopt her, she was deported to France.

Mary Edwards, who worked with Marianne on the farm, heard from her in France where she was employed as an interpreter. After a couple of months, Ms Edwards' letters were returned unanswered. Records kept in Jerusalem show that Marianne was sent from Angers to Auschwitz on July 20, 1942.

The solicitor, who did not want to be identified, said that she had been kind to him in Cambridge. "She was a nice girl and I think she ought to be remembered," he said.

Churchill biography, page 13



Final journey: the file in Jerusalem

Exam anthology fails to ease concern of teachers

■ **Pupils might never use a new anthology of English literature because teachers are planning to boycott next summer's tests**

BY JOHN O'LEARY
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

WORK by 26 authors, from Chaucer to Laurie Lee, will form the basis for controversial examinations for 14-year-olds to be held this summer.

The 46-page anthology at the heart of the tests, issued yesterday, introduces a selection of writers to the national curriculum for the first time. Until now, only Shakespeare was required reading.

The anthology, for pupils in England and Wales, includes extracts by Dickens, Wordsworth, Keats, Wilde and Johnson. There is also work by nine living writers, including Derek Walcott, who won the 1992 Nobel prize for literature. The poet Patricia Pogson is the only author under 50.

The School Examinations and Assessment Council (Seac) hoped to quell opposition by bringing forward publication of the anthology, whose contents have been the subject of heated debate. The poetry and prose extracts are deliberately wide-ranging to minimise controversy.

The move failed to placate teachers, however. They are threatening to boycott the English tests because they consider the preparation time and trials inadequate and the tests themselves unreliable. But John Patten, education secretary, insisted the English tests would be "among the most scrupulous ever produced", and emphasised their careful preparation.

The first compulsory tests for 14-year-olds in English, mathematics and science will be taken by up to 600,000 pupils in June. Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, chairman of Seac, said the anthology had been issued early to help teachers prepare. "There is absolutely no need for teachers to use it with their pupils until the last few weeks before the tests. The last thing we want to do is to encourage schools simply to teach to the tests."

The booklet, which includes two short stories and several extracts from plays, will be used for national curriculum tests for at least two years. Schools will receive bulk supplies this month, with sample questions early next month.

Teachers' leaders said publication of the anthology would do nothing to lessen the growing likelihood of boycotts. Anne Barnes, general-secretary of the National Association for the Teaching of English, said: "The anthology, with one or two exceptions, is stale and unimaginative. But that is not the main issue. Teachers simply feel that they cannot enter pupils for such unreliable tests when the results are going on their records." David Hart, general-secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, rejected claims that the tests had undergone rigorous trials.

Lord Griffiths said different types of writing had been chosen by authors of all periods. Pupils will study four short texts in the anthology according to their ability level, and any three others.

They will be allowed to refer to the anthology during the 90-minute examination, which will be divided between questions on the anthology and one of three Shakespeare plays — *Romeo and Juliet, Julius Caesar and A Midsummer Night's Dream* — for children of average and above-average ability. Those of lower ability can choose an alternative to Shakespeare.



Prologue to controversy: a scene from *The Canterbury Tales*, one of the works included in new national tests

1	"All the world's a stage" (from As You Like It)	Shakespeare
2	"A Haiku Yearbook"	Anthony Thwaite
3	"Infant Sorrow"	William Blake
	"Yesterday"	Patricia Pogson
4	Extract from David Copperfield	Charles Dickens
5	"The village school" (from Cider with Rosie)	Laurie Lee
6	Extract from Dorothy Wordsworth's diary	
	"The Daffodils"	William Wordsworth
	"Home-Thoughts, From Abroad"	Robert Browning
7	Through the Tunnel (short story)	Doris Lessing
8	"Adlestrop"	Edward Thomas
	"Cut grass"	Philip Larkin
	"A Hot Day"	A.S.J. Tessimond
9	A Drink of Water (short story)	Samuel Selvon
10	"The Knight and the Squire" (from the general prologue to the Canterbury Tales) (with modern translation)	Chaucer
11	Extract from The Importance of Being Earnest	Oscar Wilde
12	"The Young Wife"	Derek Walcott
13	"To Autumn"	John Keats
	"Autumn"	John Clare
14	"November Night, Edinburgh"	Norman MacCaig
	"Cynddylan on a Tractor"	R.S. Thomas
15	"Hard Frost"	Andrew Young
	"Winter the Huntsman"	Osbert Sitwell
16	Extract from A Child's Christmas in Wales	Dylan Thomas
17	"My Grandmother"	Elizabeth Jennings
18	"They Discourse with an Old Man" (from Rasselas)	Samuel Johnson
19	"Sonnet 73"	Shakespeare

Harrods sale defies recession

BY JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH

THOUSANDS of shoppers jammed the Harrods sale yesterday, eager for bargains ranging from a a jar of instant coffee down 50p to a five-bedroom house in Belgravia reduced by £45,000. But the two men who waited all night to be first through the doors bought nothing.

David Earle and Andrew Hall from Brentwood, Essex, had been queuing outside the Knightsbridge department store since 11.30pm on Tuesday — just for the fun of it. Mr Hall, 23, who works for a computer company, said: "We have been doing this for three years. We find it amusing."

Takings of £1 million an hour, about the same amount as last year, were reported after the singer Tom Jones opened the sale. Harrods has installed 300 extra tills to deal with the 300,000 customers a day, ten times the normal number, who are expected in the next three weeks.

One bargain was taken by Mike Garrett, 26, a pensions consultant from Hendon, northwest London, who queued from 6am at the door nearest to the television department for a colour set reduced from £349 to £49. Having worked out the route the day before, he sprinted the distance in 26 seconds.

Property was in the sale for the first time, with discounts offered on six homes. A house in Belgravia, central London, which has Michael Heseltine for a neighbour, was priced at £750,000, down £45,000. The biggest reduction was on a ruby and diamond necklace, halved from £261,376 to £130,688.

Estate agents reap benefit of £750m rescue scheme

BY RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

ESTATE agents have cashed in on the £750 million plan announced by the government last autumn to reactivate the housing market by selling repossessed property to housing associations. But the extra money has had virtually no effect on depressed prices, according to housing analysts.

Instead of housing associations buying repossessed properties as envisaged by the government, they have used the money to provide housing for those on low incomes by buying new houses or private homes from estate agents. This has done nothing to lift prices, which economists believe are depressed by forced sales of repossessed property.

Harry Hill, from the Hambro Countrywide chain of estate agents, said: "It's been good business for estate agents, but it is having between little and no effect on the housing market. The government made a complete cobblers in an attempt to help the market."

Housing associations are instructing estate agents to provide as many suitable homes as they can in the four months the government has allowed for them to spend the £750 million. These homes are not empty, nor part of the backlog of unsold homes which the government said last autumn was the main drag on the housing market.

Associations are also negotiating with builders to buy still unfinished houses on building sites as well as unsold builders' stock. David Holland, chief executive of Wimpey Homes, said: "I don't believe it is doing anything to help stimulate the housing market."

Agents' offices have been inundated with new properties as potential sellers respond to advertisements seeking houses for sale.

An advertisment from the Hertfordshire office of the estate agent Bairstow Eves, on behalf of the Warden housing association, reads: "£30 million to spend immediately. Bairstow Eves are instructed to assist one of the appointed housing associations to find suitable properties to purchase in areas including Hertfordshire. They need one, two, three and four-bedroom property, privately owned and offering early vacant possession. Telephone your local office today."

The Housing Corporation, the government quango which funds housing associations, confirms that housing associations are buying four private homes or builders' stock for every one empty property. A spokesman said the corporation hoped that the ratio might change in time. "We have only been going for seven weeks, with Christmas in the middle. It's early days," said Ian Brown from the corporation.

The way it isn't



THE news that Rolf Harris has recorded his own version of the old Led Zeppelin hippy anthem "Stairway to Heaven" has been met with horror from old hippies the world over.

"The song is sacred to some people," a sound manager is reported as saying. "There could be a backlash of Zeppelin fans steamrolling old copies of Rolf Harris's 'Two Little Boys'." It is said Led Zeppelin fans have been particularly upset by Rolf's addition of a didgeridoo and piano accordion accompaniment to lend a little cheer to the piece.

It is now commonplace to suggest that pop has run out of steam. Some date this to the recording of the 'B' side of Napoleon XIV's 1966 hit, "They're Coming To Take Me Away, Ha-Haa!", which was called "Aaah-Ah, Yawa Em Ekat Ot Gnimoc Er'yaht" and was once rumoured to have cleared a restaurant of forty diners in two minutes flat. But as far back as 1907, when Edward Madden and Theodore F Morse recorded "I'd Rather Be A Lobster Than A Wiseguy" something of a dearth of zippy new ideas has been in evidence.

In 1926, Hooley Ahola's Vikings recorded "Cock-A-Doodle I'm Off My Noodle"; in 1929, Leslie Sarony recorded "Don't Be Cruel to a Vegetabuel"; and in 1933, Dorothy Fields and Jimmy McHugh capped them all with "Hey Young Fella Close Your Old Umbrella".

Sixty years later, Rolf Harris's didgeridoo version of "Stairway to Heaven" might almost suggest that, against all received opinion, there really is such a thing as musical progress.

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THE FINE ART OF FURNISHING

Hardline Serb generals prepare to cast Karadzic adrift



Karadzic seen as a "southern softie"

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BANJA LUKA

■ Bosnia's Serbs, critical of the Geneva talks, say they will never give up the land they have taken. On the ground, however, the war is already turning against them

RADOVAN Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, faces an unenviable task. Following this week's peace conference in Geneva, he must now tell his people that the minimum demand of the international community is the dismantling of the Bosnian Serb republic for which his people have been killing and dying.

That message will be scorned by hardline Bosnian Serb leaders in the northern stronghold of Banja Luka, who maintain that whatever happens in Geneva an eventual union of all Serb-held territories in Bosnia and Croatia with Serbia is "inevitable". General Momir Talic, the head of the Serb army in northern Bosnia, when asked whether any deal reached would only be an interim solution, said: "That is a correct conclusion. It is inevitable, even if it takes a hundred years."

He also said that any foreign planes attempting to enforce the "no-fly" zone in his region would be shot down. Anti-aircraft batteries have been brought in to protect two airports in Banja Luka. General Talic added: "You can be sure that our rockets will not sleep."

Although the leaders in Banja Luka publicly rallied around Dr Karadzic yesterday, they made clear that any peace deal based on what is being discussed was utterly unacceptable. They have always been far more hardline than Dr Karadzic, who is seen here as a "southern softie". He, however, has been trying to orient his politics towards finding a solution with the Croats and Muslims.

Dr Karadzic would ignore the views expressed in Banja Luka at his peril. At the moment he is at one with them. Under the terms of the map drawn up in Geneva, the Serbs would lose the northern corridor linking Serbia to Banja Luka and their state would have to be dismantled.

However, he knows that time is not on his side. Slowly, but surely, the tide of international opinion and the war is turning, and Bosnian-Muslim troops are going on the offensive. The Serb forces are shoring up their defences on two key fronts. It is now clear that in the three weeks before Christmas the Serbs suffered their worst setbacks since the war commenced. If the attacks had not been checked in the run-up to the Geneva negotiations, the self-declared Bosnian Serb republic would have been cut into three parts.

The evidence is clear. Cars speeding through the critical northern corridor can see Croatia, 500 yards to the north across the Sava river. But, as if that were not worrying enough, they can also see the remains of a Croatian tank 200 yards to the south. Moving in a pincer movement two weeks ago Croat and Bosnian Muslim forces came within an ace of severing the vital road link between Serbia, Banja Luka and Serb-held territories in Croatia. On the question of the corridor there is simply no compromise. "We will always have it," General Talic said.

At its narrowest point, the corridor is now only two miles across. The Croatian army fires across the river from Croatia and maintains a stubborn enclave in the northern Bosnian town of Orasje. To the south, Muslim and Croat forces are putting up strong resistance in Gradacac which the Serbs must take to secure the corridor.

On the eastern front, the guerrilla war is spreading. Early last month, reinforcements were sent to secure the town of Bratunac in the Drina valley after Muslim attacks on nearby villages sent several thousand refugees scurrying into Serbia. At the end of the month, 30 tanks were diverted from the north to bolster the town's defences. All over the Drina valley, Serb forces have proved unable to scotch resistance in Gorazde and a string of Muslim enclaves up to Zvornik in the north. Just like the northern corridor, Bratunac and the Drina are vital to maintain unbroken lines throughout Serb territory.

In the northwest, Serb forces have also failed to push back Muslims from around the towns of Bihac and Cazin. At the very least, the Serbs hope to seize a slither of land close to Bihac to secure the railway track, which otherwise runs through Serb-held land. An operation launched on December 1 failed dismally.

The new offensives, however, do not yet mean that the Serbs have begun to lose significant amounts of territory. But the fear is that the longer the war continues the more arms will reach Muslim-held areas. For now the Serbs are better armed than their opponents and the front lines are snowbound. But when spring comes they will have stretched lines to defend.

President Izetbegovic of Bosnia, aware of this, will return to Geneva at the weekend desperate to play for time. Dr Karadzic, however, needs peace but has manoeuvred himself into a difficult situation. Across Serb-held territory the authority of his republic is becoming evident. And, even if he wanted to, it is impossible to see how any accord could convince Serbs to roll it back.

The Banja Luka leaders will accept nothing less than a confederation. It is precisely this that the Geneva plan rejects because, as General Talic confirms, it is a prelude to Serbs and Croats eventually being able to achieve "self-determination" and unite with their "motherlands".

Owen invests hope for Bosnia peace accord in Milosevic

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

LORD Owen and Cyrus Vance, mediators on the war in Bosnia, said after a meeting in Belgrade yesterday with Slobodan Milosevic, Serbia's hardline president, that talks on ending the war had reached a critical stage.

"It is an absolutely historic moment for the negotiations," Lord Owen, the European Community envoy, declared afterwards. He did not elaborate, but reminded reporters that Mr Milosevic and Mr Vance, the United Nations special envoy, had concluded a peace accord that ended the war last year in Croatia.

"All of us agreed, including Milosevic, that we must find peace," Mr Vance said.

Mr Milosevic said again that he was in favour of an end to the war, saying after the meeting: "There is no doubt that we are all together willing to support the peace to prevail in this area. I want to assure you that Serbia supports all peaceful moves and measures. The only way out is the immediate cessation of hostilities." Mr Milosevic said the meeting discussed, "not only a simple ceasefire that we used to have. It is a much more serious approach."

In Paris, Roland Dumas, the French foreign minister, told the cabinet that the presidents of Bosnia, Croatia and the rump Yugoslav republic, had given their agreement at meetings with him last weekend to declare the Bosnian capital of Sarajevo an open city, and that besieging forces would withdraw to a distance of 20 miles. But diplomats at the Geneva talks were sceptical, saying there was no sign that Serb forces were prepared to lift their stranglehold on the capital.

Dobrica Cosic, the Yugoslav president, in a despondent televised address to the rump state, said that Serbs were faced with a choice between fighting the West and accepting the Vance-Owen peace plan. "The outcome of the Geneva conference will determine the final decision on military intervention ... against the Serbian people in Bosnia," he said.

The mediators last weekend brought together in Geneva the leaders of the three warring factions in Bosnia — Serbs, Muslims and Croats — for the first time to discuss a peace plan that would divide the republic into ten autonomous provinces and reduce the role of central government.

It was unclear how willing Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, would be to compromise, even if asked to do so by Mr Milosevic. Before yesterday's meeting, Mr Karadzic rejected important provisions of the peace plan.

□ **Belgrade:** Milan Panic, the Yugoslav prime minister defeated in Serbia's presidential election last month, has agreed to become a roving peace ambassador, Tanjug reported. *(Reuter)*



Puppy love: a five-week-old dog called Major Max enjoying the company of Lance Corporal Andy Gunbrecht, a Royal Engineer, at Vitez in central Bosnia. The pup has been adopted as the soldiers' mascot as they serve in the freezing winter conditions (Michael Evans writes). He was bought by the sappers for £4 from a child living in the town. The engineers spotted Major Max three weeks ago at a local rugby match. He had to be fed with a syringe for two weeks but is now bouncing healthily around the troops' camp. Near the city of Travnik yesterday, an uneasy peace was shattered when Turbe was bombarded with heavy sniper and mortar fire. If the strategically important town, which marks the border of Greater Serbia on some maps, fell, Serb forces would be poised to capture Travnik, leaving them within striking distance of Vitez.

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Germans agonise over role of their toothless military

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

HARIS Silajdzic, the Bosnian foreign minister, yesterday gave a bitter account of the suffering in Sarajevo, telling a press conference in Bonn that 50,000 Bosnian women had been raped by the Serbs and appealing for an end to the international arms embargo.

His remarks will find a chilling resonance here. As Germans see film of concentration camp victims and the press reports stories that could have come from Auschwitz of the forcible implanting by Serbs of canine embryos in Muslim women, they are racked with frustration. Public opinion is overwhelmingly hostile to the Serbs, and wants to see them stopped, by force if necessary. Yet Germany, with the largest army in western Europe, can play no part in any intervention and may even refuse to co-operate with its Nato allies in enforcing the "no-fly" zone over Bosnia.

The reason is that the three main parties cannot agree whether the constitutional ban on military engagement outside the Nato area should be repealed, or indeed whether the constitution does impose such a ban. It was hard enough for Bonn to convince its allies during the Gulf war that its hands were tied; now the Germans find they are not only unable to contribute to the United Nations effort to enforce peace in Yugoslavia, but may not even be able to follow through on their promise to use the Bundeswehr to feed the starving in Somalia.

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and the Christian Democrats are losing patience with the quibbling by their Free Democrat coalition partners and with the Social Democrats (SPD). Another attempt will be made on Monday to reach agreement among the three on constitutional changes.

If the security council votes to enforce the "no-fly" zone, Germany will have to decide whether it can take part in an operation under chapter VII of the UN Charter, and if not, whether to pull its crews out of the Nato Awacs planes patrolling the area. That would cause far more annoyance to the allies than the German decision to keep its ship in the Adriatic merely observing sanctions busting instead of joining in interdiction, which made the country feel foolish.

Linked to the Bosnian imbroglio is participation in the Somalia relief operation. For many politicians, this seemed a godsend. Troops could be sent on a popular mission, and a precedent set. It did not reckon with the opposition of the SPD, which insists that the constitution must first be amended to allow such "blue helmet" operations. Herr Kohl does not believe that the constitution needs altering.

A poll released yesterday showed that only 15 per cent favour Bundeswehr combat missions under UN auspices; 44 per cent want missions limited to Germany and the Nato area. Despite the enormous public outcry, only 12 per cent support German operations in former Yugoslavia.

Laser-gun scientists pursue vision of war without death

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

LASER guns that can destroy a tank's optical equipment, acoustic bullets with an impact similar to being hit by a baseball, high-power microwave projectiles that disrupt military communications are so-called non-lethal weapons now being researched in the United States and Britain.

The latest concept in fighting wars without killing people is gaining favour at the Pentagon. Supporters of these disabling technologies are hoping that the Clinton administration will inject more money into the research to ensure that commanders of the future will have a choice of weapons: those intended to kill and those aimed at putting the enemy and its equipment out of action before the fighting starts.

Although the weapons sound like the perfect answer to the new post-Cold war era of peacemaking operations, there are fears of grotesque side-effects. Reports from America suggest that lasers designed to destroy an enemy tank's optics could also cause a soldier's eyeballs to explode, and microwave weapons could also cook internal organs.

In an article to be published in *Defence Electronics*, an American specialist journal, next month, it is claimed that prototypes of the non-lethal weapons are now being tested, although they are unlikely to be in service until the turn of the century.

The weapons include infrasound, very low-frequency sound generators that can cause disorientation, nausea and vomiting; supercaustics, jellied superacids that could weaken bridges or destroy weapon systems; and adhesive rounds delivered from the air that could glue equipment in place.

In Britain, similar research has been carried out on laser guns. Three years ago there was a dispute when it was disclosed that several Royal Navy warships carried a laser gun intended to dazzle pilots of low-flying aircraft. The system has never been used.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fighting spreads in Angola

Luanda: Fierce fighting spread to two more Angolan provincial capitals yesterday as the government stepped up its offensive against rebel forces, raising fears that full-scale civil war was resuming.

State radio said guerrillas from the National Movement for the Total Independence of Angola had been expelled from most of Cunene province, although there were still clashes, and a night curfew had been imposed in Namibe.

Diplomats said that the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola was trying to crush Unita in key cities. *(Reuter)*

Attack fails

Moscow: An attempt by Abkhazi forces to recapture Sukhumi, their secessionist republic's capital, from Georgian troops has failed. The Abkhazis put Georgian losses at 150 dead and wounded; the Georgians say there were 80 Abkhazi casualties. *(AFP)*

Muslims held

Jerusalem: Oded Ben-Ami, the Israeli defence ministry spokesman, said 22 suspected members of Muslim extremist hit squads that operated in the West Bank had been arrested in a blow to the military wing of the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement.

Political dance

Jakarta: Guruh Sukarno Putra, 39, a choreographer and a son of Indonesia's first president, said he is offering himself as a candidate for president in the hope of encouraging his party to offer a candidate other than President Suharto. *(AP)*

Big cover-up

Berlin: The artist Christo, famed for "wrapping" everything from islands to Paris bridges, said Rita Süssmuth, the parliamentary president, backed his plan to cover the old Reichstag in a million square feet of silver-coloured

هكذا من الأصل

drift

France snubs China with sale of Mirage fighters to Taiwan

■ France's decision to go ahead with the sale of jet fighters to Taipei marks a swing in French priorities away from Peking

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

FRANCE is expecting fresh retaliation from China after notifying Peking yesterday that it will sell 60 Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft to Taiwan. China has alreay denounced the action as a betrayal of relations between the two countries.

France's decision to go ahead with the fighter sale, worth about £2.48 billion, came after weeks of warnings and retaliatory action from Peking. They included the closure of the new French consulate in Canton and exclusion from bidding for a project to provide an underground railway in the city. "The sale has undermined the foundations of French-Chinese relations and threatened political, economic and trade relations between our two countries," a statement from the Paris embassy said.

The French government declined comment on the sale, which effectively marks a swing in French priorities away from Peking in recognition of Taiwan's growing economic and political weight in the region. French officials have played down the impact and say they expect no counter-measures. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the industry and foreign trade minister, said Peking seemed to be applying double standards since it had not retaliated against the United States for selling F16 fighters to Taiwan.

Peking has responded by saying that the US context is "historically different", a reference to Washington's long relations with Taiwan and France's special place in China's relations with the West. Paris established ties with the people's republic in 1964, well ahead of other Western states.

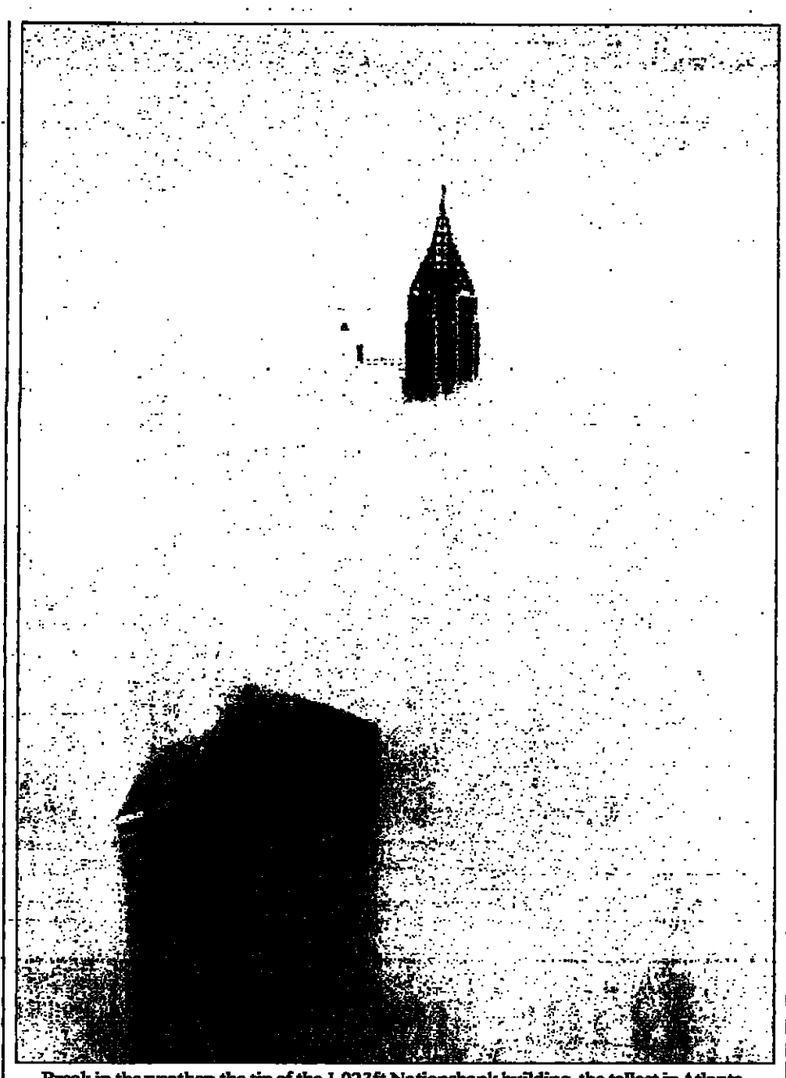
The Mirage sale, Peking says, is completely different from the sale in 1991 of 16 French frigate hulls to Taipei because they are offensive weapons. "The sale will threaten the balance of power across the Taiwan Strait," Xinhua, the Chinese state news agency, said. "So how can such behaviour be merely of an economic nature?"

It added: "The Mirage 2000-5 aircraft is an advanced plane equipped with a radar and missile system . . . even its manufacturing company has called it an offensive fighter."

China's retaliation so far is the sharpest strike at an important Western nation in over a decade. In 1981, China downgraded ties with The Netherlands over the sale of two submarines to Taiwan. Full diplomatic links were restored in 1984 when the Dutch government turned down Taiwan's request for more.

France is Peking's second foreign trading partner after Japan and a big source of investment. China will be reluctant to disturb that rapport. China recorded a Fr10 billion (£1.16 billion) trade surplus with France in 1991 and its surplus should increase this year.

☐ **Hong Kong:** China, in a reversal of long-standing policy, has decided to ask Taiwan for direct talks on reunifying the capitalist island with the mainland, the *Far Eastern Economic Review* said. The offer is to be made public in a couple of months. *(AFP)*



Break in the weather: the tip of the 1,023ft Nationsbank building, the tallest in Atlanta, Georgia, looming through the fog that has enveloped the city since last week

Bonn uses radar to halt refugees

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

THE number of people seeking asylum in Germany last year reached a record 438,191, an increase of 71 per cent over 1991, according to the interior ministry. Almost two thirds came from eastern Europe and the former Yugoslavia.

Only half the cases were decided within the year, and of those only a tiny fraction, 9,189, were actually granted political asylum. Germany has taken 60 per cent of all the refugees in the European Community.

The figures also showed that the massive influx of illegal aliens continued unabated: 53,732 were arrested on entry into Germany in the first 11 months of 1992. Rudolf Seiters, the interior minister, said the figures showed the urgency of a new law limiting the right to apply for asylum.

On Monday he announced proposals to deploy radar along Germany's borders with Poland and the Czech Republic to detect illegal immigrants. His plans have sparked criticism on the left, and also in Prague, where the government complained it was not consulted. Jan Ruml, the Czech interior minister, will come to Bonn for talks later this month. During the new year ceremonies marking the new Czech state, the government said that if Germany erected an "iron curtain" along its eastern border, Prague would immediately do the same.

With talks on a new asylum law still bogged down, the attacks on foreigners have continued. Several hostels for asylum seekers have been set alight. On Tuesday, neo-Nazis attacked a hostel in Bavaria, breaking down the door and shouting slogans. Those inside armed themselves with clubs and chased them away. A Jewish cemetery in Thuringia was also desecrated on Tuesday. However, Ingnatz Bubis, president of the Central Council of Jews, said on returning from Israel that the Israeli press had reported "very positively" on the wave of popular demonstrations in Germany against racism. These included a parade through the streets of Stuttgart by about 400 taxi-drivers from all over Germany on Monday.



The trial of five British neo-nazis in Cottbus, accused of having stabbed and wounded a youth in 1991, has been put off until March 29 after four of them failed, without explanation, to appear in court. Three were members of a neo-nazi band Screwdriver.

Chernomyrdin puts brake on reforms

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

THE Russian reform programme is showing signs of undergoing rapid and significant change under Viktor Chernomyrdin, the new prime minister, whose new year policy statement, coupled wih the sudden reimposition of basic price controls, has strengthened the impression that he intends to deflect the economy from the free market path.

In his first important speech since taking office, Mr Chernomyrdin denied that he was about to reverse the reforms of the past year but added that "the question is how to go forward without breaking your neck". He criticised shock therapy policies as "improvisation", and declared he intended "to brake, then halt the fall in [industrial] production", indicating he favoured state intervention to stave off mass industrial closures, but failed to answer criticisms that this would accelerate inflation.

In a further move intended to cushion the effects of economic reform on ordinary Russians, the head of the parliamentary prices committee said that subsidies would continue on many basic foods this year — a commitment that may well cause the budget deficit to rise above the 5 per cent of gross national product cited by the International Monetary Fund as the highest level at which reform could realistically proceed.

Mr Chernomyrdin said that the price liberalisation and strict monetary policy favoured by Yegor Gaidar, his predecessor, had failed to change the motivation of state enterprises and that the attempt to plunge Russia headlong into an alien market culture had left it "thrashing around in very cold water". His remedy of "cold calculation and practical organisation of work", coupled with a declaration of faith in regulated reform, reflects his past as a Soviet technocrat who believes that the state can rescue the country from decline.



Chernomyrdin: favours more state intervention

Russians flock to rediscover faith

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

INSIDE the Church of the Virgin of Tikhvin on the road to the sacred Orthodox city of Zagorsk, the outraged wail of babies confronted by the chill of holy water echoed through the vestry. The choir was practising for the night of Christmas worship which started yesterday and will end this morning.

Father Ariadi Tyushchuk's eyes twinkle with enthusiasm. "There are twice as many people as last year," he said. "Every service is full, 20 to 25 baptisms a week, and I have to have three junior priests to help cope with the pastoral work."

The Orthodox Christmas, which returned officially to Russia last year, has caught the public imagination more quickly than even the priests hoped for after more than 70 years of official atheism.

President Yeltsin reintroduced the Christmas feast as a holiday last year. One result has been an inordinately long winter holiday. But the move also prompted non-churchgoers to try out the Christmas services. "We've had our new year with all the presents and food and drink," said one man. "A festival has to have a focus so I suggested to my wife that we go to church. We've only been twice in our lives."

The high attendance delights Father Tyshchuk, who stands at the door counting in his congregation like a careful shepherd. "I had expected the elderly to take up Christmas again, but it was wonderful to see them bringing their families with them," he said.

Religion is not only acceptable again but rapidly becoming desirable for those who intend to take a leading role in society. The latest convert is Eduard Shevardnadze, Georgia's leader, hitherto an atheist, baptised as "Georgy" last month. Asked if this meant that he was now a believer, he said: "I am in a long process of evolving a world outlook." An icon of the Virgin Mary stands in his study, where once Stalin's portrait hung.

Mr Yeltsin attends services at Christmas and Easter, while remaining avowedly secular during the rest of the year.

The multimillionaire entrepreneur, Konstantin Borovoi, has embraced Orthodoxy but admits that he joined "for business reasons" and adds that he leaves "the praying bit" to his nine-year-old daughter.

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Baghdad pledges to take 'far south' and Kurdish zones

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE Iraqi army is "ready to liberate" areas of the country outside Baghdad's control, according to General Ali Hassan al-Majid, the defence minister, in a speech to mark army day yesterday. The statement came as America said it was consulting Britain, France and Saudi Arabia about an ultimatum to Baghdad over the placing of anti-aircraft missiles within the "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq.

■ The latest volley of bellicose rhetoric from Iraq leaves open the possibility of a new military adventure in Kuwait

General al-Majid said that Baghdad's armed forces had recovered from the Gulf war and were in a position to extend government control throughout Iraq, both in the north and the "extreme south". The latter threat was seen as an ambiguous reference to Kuwait, which Iraq still claims as its 19th province. It also referred to the air exclusion zone south of the 32nd parallel controlled by allied war planes to protect Shia Muslims from aerial bombardment. A similar zone protects the Kurds in the north of the country.

Iraq has vowed to avenge the loss of one of its MiG fighters shot down by American war planes when it breached the zone 11 days ago. Iraq's air force commander yesterday claimed that Iraqi pilots were ready to confront allied aircraft.

President Saddam Hussein chose not to mention the issue in a nationally televised speech marking the 72nd anniversary of the creation of the Iraqi army. He merely congratulated the armed forces for ignoring Western calls to rebel against his rule.

"Their [the West's] disappointment crushed the remnants of base hope which they had pinned, in vain, on those who they thought they could manipulate," he said in a relatively low-key speech. Last month the Iraqi leader said thatBaghdad planned to reassert its control over the Kurdish north but would not launch a military offensive.

While many Iraqi exiles believe that Saddam will back down at the last moment from a perilous game of brinkmanship, a prominent opposition figure said the Iraqi leader was ready to shoot down an American war plane as a parting shot at President Bush. Ahmad Chalabi, of the Iraqi National Congress, said: "He doesn't care about Iraqis getting killed in retaliatory strikes. He would get useful support from some domestic circles if he is seen to stand up to the US again."

US deadline, page 1

Japanese prince finds a bride from Oxford

BY DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT



Imperial partner: Masako Owada, a former Oxford student, has ended years of speculation

AFTER years of searching the Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan has found a future empress and the succession to the Chrysanthemum Throne appears secure.

The second commoner to join the 1,000-year-old imperial dynasty will be the eldest daughter of Hisashi Owada, a foreign ministry vice-minister. Masako Owada, 29, a graduate of Harvard magna cum laude in economics, already has a successful career in the foreign ministry to her credit.

She spent two years at Balliol College, Oxford studying international relations and is presently in the second North America economic division. It handles the United States and Canada and is generally considered to be the ministry's toughest assignment. Her fiancé spent two years at Merton college, Oxford from 1983-84 where his room was adorned with pictures of Brooke Shields, and where he developed a taste for Western life on the party circuit.

Michio Watanabe, the foreign minister, welcomed the surprise news, which was marked by a special edition of the *Asahi Shimbun* mass-circulation morning paper. The paper devoted the whole of its front page to the news, which was first reported abroad after a news blackout was imposed last January on the increasingly desperate efforts of the prince to find a consort. The blackout was requested by the palace and newspapers and broadcasters complied for fear of being denied permission to cover the eventual wedding.



Naruhito: pledged to marry by age of 32

As a young man, Prince Naruhito pledged to marry by the age of 32. His self-imposed deadline was due to expire this year.

Numerous eligible ladies were invited to tennis tea parties at the British embassy in an attempt to find his help-mate. But like young women in monarchies across the world life in the imperial court did not have universal appeal and many of those eligible quickly became otherwise engaged when the Imperial Household Agency came calling.

Miss Owada also enjoys tennis and skiing, but the couple eventually met at a concert in 1986. The romance then cooled during her period at Oxford.

The media feeding frenzy will outdo its Fleet Street counterpart now, but the authorities will take great care to avoid repeating the marital misfortunes of the House of Windsor. A ten-strong imperial council is to meet on January 19 to consider Miss Owada's candidacy but there seems little doubt that she will become Japan's answer to the Princess of Wales. The wedding is expected to take place in May.

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Somalis agree to talk and fight

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

SOMALIA'S warring factions have agreed in principle to hold a "national reconciliation conference" in April. But the deal, brokered at talks organised by the United Nations in Addis Ababa yesterday, showed all the hallmarks of a Somali compromise designed to impress foreigners, while the warlords continue their activities as usual.

General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, leader of the Somali National Alliance, insisted yesterday that the 14 groups gathered in the Ethiopian capital should meet there again in a month before a full commitment to reconciliation talks could be reached.

He said that he wanted a peace conference to be held in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, after a second round of talks in Addis Ababa. But the Somali Salvation Democratic Front, which has been fighting General Aidid's forces in the central city of Galkayo recently, said that talks should be held in Washington.

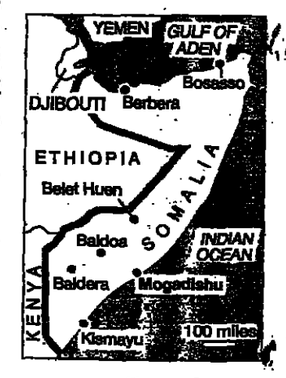
This sort of bickering had marred the three-day meeting in Addis Ababa and driven Boutros Boutros Ghali, the UN secretary-general, to say that the international community could lose patience and pull out within 24 hours. Late on Tuesday, he told delegates: "There are Somali leaders who are still under the impression that Somalia is of strategic importance . . . this is no longer true, as it was during the Cold war. The international community could say 'Enough is enough' and walk away."

One main stumbling block to a peace deal is the insistence from all the groups in Addis Ababa, except General Aidid, that the warlords' militias should return to their traditional clan areas. General Aidid, whose Habre Gedir clan hails from around Galkayo but took over half of Mogadishu as well as most of the central southern regions of Bay and Bakol, has refused to accept that precondition.

This week, men from his militia have been engaged in fierce fighting on the north-western edge of Mogadishu with those loyal to Ali Mahdi Muhammad, his arch-rival, who controls northern Mogadishu. Both factions want to establish control over the disputed suburb on the front line between them before American troops move in and freeze the boundaries.

The US forces troops are expected to begin a slow return home at the end of this month: they will be replaced by soldiers under UN command. Robert Oakley, the US special envoy to Somalia, said in Washington that the scaling down of the American-led Operation Restore Hope would be matched with an increase in the number of UN troops in Somalia.

☐ **Two killed:** Two Somali gunmen were killed within 24 hours yesterday, bringing the number of Somalis killed by foreign troops to eight.



Black troops feel tug of their roots

FROM MARK FRITZ IN MOGADISHU

SERGEANT James Wilson of the US Marine Corps felt the pull of his roots, the lure of his ancestral homeland. So he volunteered for Somalia. It was a mistake.

"I thought it would be great to get some insight into my heritage," said Sgt Wilson, 26, a mess-hall cook from Cleveland, Ohio. "But I feel really different, way different. They look at me like I'm on the other side."

When President Bush sent US troops to Somalia, he gave a sizeable percentage of the force a free ticket to the continent of their origins. Three weeks into the mission, some black Americans can not relate to the Somali culture. Others feel a strong bond to the Somalis despite the language barrier, the filth and heat, and the outlaws who constantly try to steal military equipment.

Capt Joe Terry, 32, is relishing his mission. He volunteered while stationed in Okinawa, Japan, and was given a dream assignment: liaison to the Nigerian army contingent. "I thought, 'Yeah, we're going to help our brothers and sisters in Africa in a just cause, and work with other Africans'," said Capt Terry, from Warrenton, North Carolina.

Working with the Nigerians has given Capt Terry a glimpse of an Africa beyond the appalling deprivation of Somalia. Unlike the Somalis, the Nigerian troops speak English. Capt Terry said he has found them to be a lot like Americans, and has formed bonds that will continue beyond his tour. "Their religion is Islam, but they're just like us," he said. "And we've got what I hear is some good Nigerian food coming in."

Other black US soldiers have put race in the background. "I consider myself a human being first," said Staff Sgt LeRoy Evans, 26, of Hyattsville, Maryland, whose unit is responsible for telling Somalis about military operations. "I see these people as people in need, not what the colour of their skin is."

He said Somalis have come up to him and said: "You are my brother." He added: "I think if there was trouble, white soldiers would get it first, unfortunately. That's just the way it is."

Staff Sgt Vidaurri Higgins, 33, of Hearne, Texas, said: "I love helping people and bringing joy to their faces. I've always had a desire to visit Africa but I never thought I could afford it. I got two great things out of this. We get to feed people and I get to visit Africa." (AP)

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هكذا من الأصل

Hurd restates UK claim to Falklands sovereignty

■ Britain and Argentina are making the ritual repetition of claims to the islands. Both sides are determined not to let that get in the way of boosting bilateral business

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN BUENOS AIRES

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, arrived in Buenos Aires yesterday, in the first visit to Argentina by a British cabinet minister since the Falklands war in 1982. He and Argentine officials repeated respective national claims to sovereignty over the islands.

The four-day official visit by Mr Hurd comes as a sign of improved relations between Britain and Argentina, but it is unlikely to bring any change to the wrangle over ownership of the Falklands. "We have made good steady progress in rebuilding relations with Argentina, steady progress without upsets. But we have no doubt about our position on sovereignty," the foreign secretary said on his arrival.

Britain has made clear that it does not intend to budge on its claims and Mr Hurd has said that his visit would bring no advance on the disagreement over sovereignty but would consolidate improved links with Argentina.

However, Buenos Aires sees Mr Hurd's visit as a first chance to start what President Menem calls a "diplomatic war" over the South Atlantic islands. Señor Menem has repeatedly vowed that he intends to regain sovereignty over the Falklands through diplomatic pressure and international forums. Although Mr Hurd may prefer to avoid the subject, Argentine foreign ministry officials say that Señor Menem will bring up the issue when they meet tomorrow.

Mr Hurd will also meet Guido Di Tella, his Argentine counterpart. High on the agenda will be discussions on a recent squid-fishing agreement in the South Atlantic and President Menem's request for a visit to Britain this year. Although Argentine officials repeatedly announce Señor Menem's trip to Britain, he has not yet received an official invitation.

Diplomatic relations between Britain and Argentina were resumed in 1990 soon after President Menem came into office and surprised most observers by moving away from an anti-British stance. It was agreed then that the sovereignty issue would be kept under a "diplomatic umbrella" indefinitely, although Señor Menem has often ignored that agreement.

Diplomatic ties have improved steadily, and reached a peak when the two countries co-operated in the Gulf war. There has also been rapid growth of British business interests in Argentina over the past two years, during which Señor Menem has implemented successful economic reforms that have lifted his country from hyperinflation.

"Argentina is a power with world interests," Mr Hurd said at a press conference in Buenos Aires. "We will discuss how we can achieve order in the world."

Despite the contradictory claims of sovereignty over the Falklands, which will surface throughout Mr Hurd's visit, both sides are keen not to jeopardise the improved relations. Señor Menem will feel that he has to raise Argentina's claims for domestic reasons, but he will also win popularity by showing that he is strengthening links with the Western world. Argentinians are keen on economic and trade links that will safeguard their newly won economic stability.



Last exit: a group of Haitians, among the 352 refugees on board a freighter that evaded US Coast Guards to reach Miami this week, surveying their new surroundings before being taken to a detention centre

Haitians test US refugee policy

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

PRESSURE is building on Bill Clinton, the president-elect, to define his policy towards Haiti. Hundreds more refugees from the Caribbean state have arrived here as 159 others began a seventh day on hunger strike, protesting over their treatment.

On Tuesday, 352 Haitians evaded the US Coast Guard and reached Miami on a 75ft freighter. But as they were about to leap ashore, a coast guard boarded the ship. Three people escaped but were later captured in port and taken with the others to Krome detention centre, west Miami.

Haitian refugee lawyers yesterday accused immigration authorities of moving the refugees overnight by bus to detention centres in Louisiana and Texas. Cheryl Little, a lawyer, said that only in Miami can Haitians be guaranteed their right to legal representation, as the city has lawyers who speak Haitian Creole. She accused immigration officials of mistreating the 159 Haitians on hunger strike at Krome.

The strikers are protesting over the privileged status of Cubans, who are processed in a matter of hours, and then released. Many Haitians have been detained for months while their asylum requests are considered.

Under a 1966 law, Cubans fleeing communism are entitled to special status as political refugees. Haitians, on the other hand, are considered to be economic migrants.

But lawyers for the Haitians say many have been forced to flee because of political persecution. Haiti has been ruled by a series of military-backed governments since a coup in September 1991 ousted President Aristide, the democratically elected leader.

The 352 Haitians who arrived on Tuesday are the largest contingent to reach Miami. They cannot be immediately repatriated because, once within American waters, all refugees are allowed to make asylum requests.

The US fears that thousands more Haitians may be preparing to escape. Mr Clinton has said he favours relaxing immigration rules affecting Haitians. But aides say he is anxious to prevent an exodus and may even consider extending President Bush's order allowing summary repatriation.



Hurd: hopes to improve Buenos Aires trade

Grim deficit forecast for America

Washington: President Bush released gloomy budget deficit projections yesterday that will force unpalatable choices on Bill Clinton and make it all but impossible for the president-elect to fulfil important campaign promises (Martin Fletcher writes).

The administration's year-by-year forecasts have been revised upwards since last summer and predict that, without drastic policy changes, the deficit will exceed $300 billion (£196 billion) in 1997, compared with last year's record $290 billion.

Sultan change

Kuala Lumpur: The Malaysian cabinet agreed to draft constitutional amendments stripping hereditary rulers of immunity from prosecution after a school hockey coach said that he was slapped by Mahmood Iskandar, the Sultan of Johore. *(Reuter)*

Treaty replaced

Moscow: President Yeltsin of Russia will visit India to sign a treaty replacing the 1971 treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation between India and the former Soviet Union. The relationship still has a strong military element. *(Reuter)*

Aids tests start

Singapore: Compulsory tests for the Aids virus have started for more than 300,000 foreign labourers here. Anybody found to be HIV-positive must leave the country. Foreign executives will not be tested. *(AP)*

Saving Hanoi

Hanoi: A foundation has been set up by Gough Whitlam, the former Australian prime minister, to preserve Hanoi, known for its mix of French colonial and feudal Vietnam-

Clintons defend choice of school

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BILL Clinton, who made improvement of state education one of his strongest campaign commitments, is to send his daughter, Chelsea, 12, to a private school after he moves into the White House.

Critics swiftly decried the decision yesterday as inconsistent with Mr Clinton's populist image, but others hailed him for not sacrificing his daughter's schooling just to demonstrate that he will be a people's president.

Chelsea will go to Sidwell Friends' School, a Quaker institution with a reputation for excellence, in a rich suburb of north-west Washington. Annual fees for her tuition will be $10,400 (£7,000).

Mr Clinton and his wife, Hillary, said they chose Sidwell after careful consideration. In a statement, they explained: "As parents, we believe this decision is best for our daughter at this time in her life, based on our changing circumstances."

George Stephanopoulous, a Clinton spokesman, said the family's decision was not based on security considerations. He also insisted that the preference for a private school should not be seen as a snub to Washington's troubled and overcrowded school system where almost 90 per cent of students are black, many from poor homes.

Until now, Chelsea has been attending a state-run "magnet" school for academically gifted children in Little Rock, Arkansas.

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Chandigirh	Jan. 21st
Bangalore	Feb. 26th
Jamshedpur	March 1st
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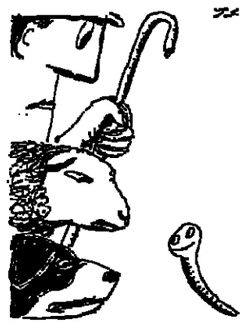
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Tale of the tapeworm



THE health of Erich Honecker, the former ruler of East Germany, now on trial in Berlin, continues to exercise the diagnostic skills of the court. The prosecution claims that "he only has a tapeworm", the defence that he is dying from cancer of the liver. Herr Honecker would not be the first supremo to have had troubles with worms: in 1942 Benito Mussolini passed the largest roundworm, Ascaris lumbricoides, that his doctor, the late Sir Aldo Castenalli, had ever seen.

The description "only a tapeworm" does not do justice to the dangers of having a huge hydatid liver cyst, which can be a complication of infection with the small tapeworm, Echinococcus granulosus, which usually prefers the company of dogs and sheep to that of humans.

The dogs are infected by eating the organs of infected sheep, and the eggs are spread by the dogs' faeces. In people the eggs are acquired by stroking the fur contaminated by faeces of infected dogs, and then by failing to wash their hands before eating. The larvae which have hatched from the eggs develop cysts in the patient's organs. Hydatid disease of the liver is found in districts where sheep farming is important. The cysts take years to reach a size where they cause symptoms.

Hydatid disease of the liver is serious, even in an otherwise healthy young Welsh shepherd — it is ten times more common in Wales than in England — and would be a considerable worry to an 80-year-old. Drug treatment is still unreliable, and surgery is difficult and dangerous with an immediate death rate of up to 3 per cent, and a recurrence rate of 10 per cent.

It is a bit late for Herr Honecker, if indeed he is suffering from an hydatid cyst as a result of tapeworm infection, but those of us who enjoy the company of dogs should keep them regularly dewormed, and never forget to wash our hands before eating.

Princess and the plea



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

PRESS reports have blamed Princess Margaret's recurrent chest troubles on her refusal to take medical advice on her lifestyle, a habit, it is said, due to her tendency to treat doctors "as if they were tradesmen". When Dr Francis Willis, the royal physician, attended the princess's ancestor, George III, the doctor had no doubts that it was he who was in charge. Robert Greville, a diarist, noted on January 30, 1789 that when the king became "loud and impatient" on being lectured by Dr Willis, the doctor had his patient physically restrained and gagged so that he was able to finish his lecture.

Whenever I have seen Princess Margaret talking to doctors she has been charm itself. But it is unlikely that her physicians would expect their advice on smoking to be taken as an order. Doctors proffer advice, explaining as they do so their reasons for it, rather than issue commands, and thereafter it is up to the patient to accept or reject it as they will.

Doctors certainly should not take umbrage if their opinions on a patient's lifestyle are not accepted, but it is rather different if a patient constantly rejects actual treatment. It would then be up to the doctor to suggest to the patient that perhaps he or she would prefer to take their problems elsewhere.

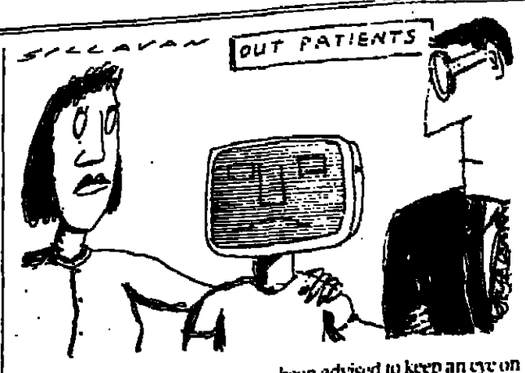
Princess Margaret's vice, if that is what it is, is now very unfashionable, but it is strange that the same people who might consider it morally justifiable to withhold treatment from a smoker who continued to smoke, would be the first to condemn a doctor who refused to treat a patient who was unable, for instance, to control their sexual desires and had become a regular at the local VD clinic.

Pneumonia as a diagnosis lacks precision, it is a term used to describe acute infections, due to a wide variety of organisms and other causes, of the spongy lung tissue, or the narrow tubes leading to it. If a whole lobe of the lung is affected it is described as lobar pneumonia, if only a segment of the lobe as segmental or, rather confusingly, lobular pneumonia. If the infection is in the tubes it is known as bronchopneumonia. The variety of organisms which can cause pneumonia is immense; the list runs from such well-recognised bacteria as pneumococci, various staphylococci and streptococci, to Haemophylus influenzae and TB and many different viruses and fungi.

Pneumonia often follows an upper respiratory tract infection, usually no more than a cold or attack of flu, but certain factors are known to predispose to chest infections. Patients are liable to suffer chest infection, often used by doctors as a euphemism for pneumonia, if they are prone to any situations or conditions which affect either their local or general resistance to the invading bacteria. Susceptibility is increased by smoking, severe tiredness, excessive alcohol intake, exposure to the elements (including hypothermia), surgery, undernourishment, other viral infections and, above all, the never-to-be-forgotten possibility that there might be an underlying, undiagnosed cancer of the bronchial tubes.

After an apparently simple pneumonia has been cleared by the appropriate antibiotics, it is essential that further chest X-rays should be carried out to make certain there is no hidden tumour. When there is a family history of lung cancer this becomes even more important. All too frequently, attacks of pneumonia are treated with antibiotics with too narrow a spectrum so that only a minority of organisms are destroyed. Over the past few years, though, the number of broad-spectrum antimicrobal preparations suitable for treating chest infections has proliferated.

Congestion of the lungs can also be associated with heart failure, but its causes are quite different from those of true pneumonia, and its treatment relies, naturally enough, on correcting the heart problem.



Fitting presents

DOCTORS working in casualty at Christmas are adept at removing inhaled parts of toys from younger children — the plastic heads of toy soldiers used to be a particular problem. But now it would seem that it is some of their elder brothers and sisters who are the patients. Two children, aged 12 and 14, were treated at the Royal Infirmary in Cardiff on Christmas day for seizures induced by exposure to the flashing lights of computer games.

The British Epilepsy Association recently asked that all these games should carry a warning — Sega and Nintendo, the market leaders, already do — and parents have been advised to keep an eye on their children when they first play them.

The risk is not a big one, but the publicity surrounding it does have one advantage: it illustrates that not all seizures are due to epilepsy, but that anybody can, given the appropriate stimulus, have a seizure. The threshold for such a fit can also be reduced by tiredness, fever, excitement, or hunger when the blood sugar level may fall. Some sounds can induce a seizure as can, in rare cases, inappropriate stimulation of the skin.

Not all fits are indicative of epilepsy, but any child who does have a convulsion or who, while playing one of the games, suffers from altered vision, muscle twitching, loss of awareness of surroundings or mental confusion, should see their doctor.

Spike: my part in his upturn

Sally Brompton reports on how a psychiatrist and a comedian analysed the causes of and cures for depression



Meeting of minds: on occasion Dr Anthony Clare, left, had to employ his professional skills to survive the vehemence of Spike Milligan's depression

Dr Anthony Clare and Spike Milligan first met at the end of the 1970s at a Boxing day party given by a well-known psychiatrist who specialises in treating actors. Among the other party guests were Peter O'Toole, Peter Cook and Kenneth Griffith.

Three years later Mr Milligan publicly identified himself as a manic-depressive on Dr Clare's Radio 4 programme, *In the Psychiatrist's Chair*. Now the psychiatrist and the comedian have collaborated on a book about depression, the title of which, *Depression and How to Survive It*, echoes another therapist/comedian joint work, *Families and how to survive them* by Dr Robin Skynner, the psychotherapist, and John Cleese.

Mr Milligan has suffered from depression for nearly half a century. It has tormented him, on and off, for months at a time, blighting a life gifted with genius, submerging him in a bleak, black world and inflicting pain which he attempts to explain as "every fibre in your body screaming for relief yet there is no relief".

The widespread ignorance and fear which surrounds this common and distressing illness (there are between three and four million sufferers in this country) is the reason that Mr Milligan agreed to work with Dr Clare. Mr Milligan discloses in detail his personal experiences of the illness while Dr Clare, who has been treating depressive illnesses for most of his professional life, relates them to the medical theories surrounding the causes and treatments of depression.

It was not an easy book to write — particularly since Mr Milligan was in the grip of a prolonged and debilitating period of depression during its progress.

During their first interview for the book, Dr Clare's disclosure that he had seven children provoked a relentless tirade from Mr Milligan about "over-population, global contamination, environmental pollution, despoliation of the planet".

His views, accepted by Dr Clare as being "uncomfortably reasonable in many ways, indeed quite conventional by today's standards" were expressed with "extraordinary vehemence, an almost personal hostility which was extremely disconcerting".

Dr Clare employed his professional skills to survive the onslaught. "The fact that you take it means that it doesn't have the same effect. After a while, Milligan gets fed up. He sees that I'm not going to get too upset about this and, in fact, at times, I was quite amused that he should feel so strongly about me and my seven kids and the over-population of Ireland which is stretching it a bit. But, of course, at the same time, I also felt rather vulnerable because some of the points scored home."

Despite his verbal assaults — which were sustained but became laced with humour when he eventually recovered — Mr Milligan was ultimately co-operative. "I think being Irish made up for a lot," Dr Clare says. "There was some kind of conspiracy between us."

While the precise reasons why certain people become clinically depressed are unknown, there are, in Mr Milligan's case, a number of possible causal and aggravating factors which Dr Clare believes may have combined to bring about his illness. They include dramatic, unpredictable and temperamental parents, an absent soldier father who suffered depressive mood swings and a domineering possessive mother whose death, at the age of 97, brought on Mr Milligan's most recent illness.

There were separations in his early life when his mother was ill and Mr Milligan has never forgotten the trauma of being uprooted from India at the age of 15 when his family moved to suburban London. "That left the most indelible mark on him," Dr Clare says. "He's constantly in search of nostalgia. He has tiny shoes which belonged to his children, their first drawings, their toys. And when he gets depressed, the memories they bring back make him weep. His room is a treasure trove of his life."

During the second world war, Mr Milligan was injured on active duty with the Royal Artillery and suffered a series of nervous breakdowns which resulted in him being unfairly branded a coward by his commanding officer and court-martialled. Dr Clare does not put too much psychiatric importance on the episode. "He's got used to using that as an explanation and it was a factor but I don't think it was the only factor."

Dr Clare believes that the six-year period in the 1950s when Mr Milligan was churning out scripts for *The Goon Show* at the rate of 26 a year is more significant. "Spike Milligan still winces at the toll the process took of his physical and mental health", Dr Clare writes. "He recalls the irritability, the haunting deadline and the enormous sense of pressure he felt. The whole show, the performance of the other three [Peter Sellers, Harry Secombe and Michael Bentine], the quality of the material, the very humour itself depended on his ability to dredge up out of his often weary mind novel, idiosyncratic, incongruous and hilarious comic material."

It was during this period of hyperactivity that Mr Milligan exhibited the classic symptoms of the manic-depressive, "an ability to function on a few hours of sleep and to operate at a high energy level for hours on end. The people at risk these days," Dr Clare says, "are the people in the City who work all hours with tight deadlines."

> Dr Clare explores a "significant association" between manic-depression and creativity

Dr Clare explores a "statistically significant association" between manic-depression and creativity in assessing the implications of the illness on Mr Milligan's career. "Examining his psychiatric history, there is evidence, particularly in the Goon years, strongly suggesting a relationship between his surges of manic energy and his comic productivity. Up to a certain point of mood elevation, he appears to have been able to harness the energy, the drive, the heightened sensations, the accelerated fluency of word, thought and association and to fashion the idiosyncratic "manic" humour that is a characteristic, perhaps *the* characteristic, of the Goons. But beyond the level of hypomania, with the onset of mania itself, Milligan lost the ability to mould it into humour and lost his own power to control his day-to-day life and feelings."

While Mr Milligan admits that "the best scripts I wrote were when I was ill" he is convinced that his comic genius is not worth the agonies of manic-depression.

"Milligan is a funny man," Dr Clare says, "particularly when he's a little high, and that's manageable. But the little high is followed by being a little low — indeed, in his case, he gets profoundly low — and maybe that's why many comedians have a tendency to melancholia because it's the other side of being high. It is very hard to have one without the other."

When depressed, Mr Milligan's normal traits become drastically exaggerated. His disillusionment with humanity is coloured with a relentless destructiveness, his yearning towards nostalgia is obsessive and he interprets other people's shortcomings as personal insults.

Dr Clare finds it surprising that, despite his long history of depressive illness, Mr Milligan has had no continuing relationship with a psychiatrist. "It's a comment on psychiatry — or it may be that he fell out with them. Spike is a great faller-out." Mr Milligan has had electro-convulsive therapy (ECT) during several admissions to hospital but the drug lithium, effective in controlling manic-depressive swings, appears to have been most beneficial.

It is important for people suffering from depression to seek professional help at an early stage, Dr Clare says. "Anyone feeling low for up to two weeks, unable to lift themselves out of it by the normal means, or with their ordinary everyday functions such as working, sleeping and eating affected, should consult their GP. The fact that there may be an obvious reason for their depression makes no difference. There might be a good reason to have high blood pressure but that doesn't stop you treating it."

He blames popular misconceptions about mental health for much of the public's lack of awareness about depression, and in the book cites something Michael Bentine once said of Mr Milligan as an example of this: "He's an extraordinarily sane person. It's nonsense he's a nut. A nut isn't a shrewd businessman, a nut can't write a television series, a nut can't take up issues and see them through, and anyone must be nutty who thinks he is."

"We expect our mental illnesses to be absolutely mad but in between episodes of manic-depressive illness sufferers are perfectly normal," Dr Clare says. "These illnesses are precisely missed because they're so much a gradient from normality. And people are frightened of it. They fear it because it attacks the most crucial element of us — our brains.

"Depression does depress and that is why people shun it. It leaves people with a dilemma — 'do I jolly you along or do I ignore you?'. You shouldn't patronise depressives by trying to reassure them, other than reminding them that they have felt this way before and they have felt better. Saying things like 'you've got everything to live for' or 'think of your children' only makes them feel worse because they know all that and it only makes them feel guilty. The best thing anyone can do is just to listen. That's what I quite often did with Spike."

● Depression and How To Survive It *is published today by Ebury Press (£14.99).*

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Tree bark fights cancer

HOT LINE

CANCER patients in Britain may soon be offered a treatment derived from a tree extract, after a decision last week by the United States and Canadian governments to approve taxol, a drug distilled from the bark of the Pacific yew. Bristol Myers Squibb, which developed the drug together with America's National Cancer Institute, has applied for marketing licences in Europe. Earlier this week, the Cancer Research Campaign announced it was planning clinical trials in Britain.

The American and Canadian governments have approved taxol's use for treating ovarian cancer, a disease which afflicts about 5,000 women a year in Britain, killing nearly 4,000. Tests are also being carried out into the treatment of other tumours, including head, neck and breast cancers, and studies are under way to evaluate taxol's effect on cancers of the lung.

☐ Taxol was discovered by chance in the early 1960s by Dr Monroe Wall, a scientist based at the Research Triangle Institute in Raleigh, North Carolina. While screening plants in northwest America, Dr Wall found that a substance from the Pacific yew, *Taxus brevifolia*, killed all the cancer cells in a leukaemia culture.

☐ The trials which helped secure US government approval involved five studies with 192 women, many of whom had advanced ovarian cancer. In most cases, conventional cancer drugs and treatments, such as chemotherapy, had failed. Taxol managed to shrink, by at least a half, tumours in 20 to 33 per cent of patients while prolonging life by an average of five to seven months. After that, the drug became ineffective. Why remains a mystery. The British trials hope to test whether the drug's early rather than later use could boost a treatment's outcome.

☐ The drug has side-effects which are similar to other cancer treatments. These include hair loss, numbness in fingers and toes, and the suppression of white blood cells. Early results also indicate that taxol is ineffective against some skin cancers and cancer of the colon.

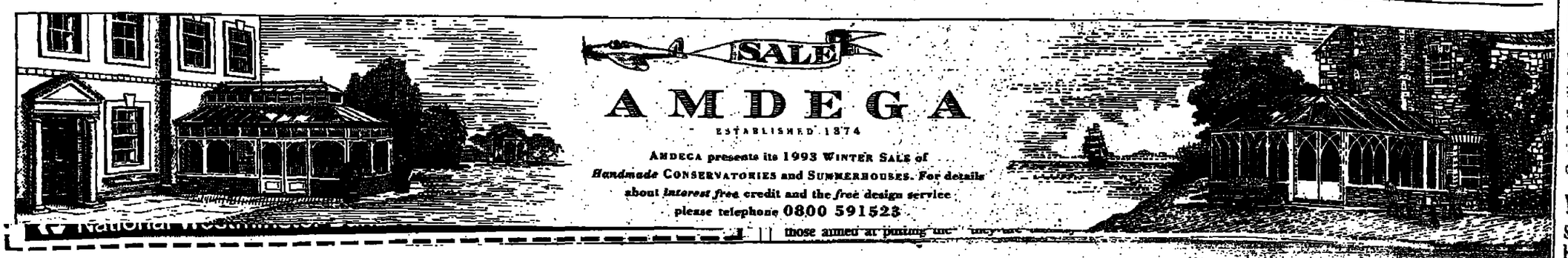
☐ Taxol is extracted by stripping the bark of the Pacific yew, killing the rare and slow-growing tree. About 60lb of dry bark, or between three and four trees, is needed to treat one patient for a year. The Food and Drug Administration's approval was contingent on an environmental impact assessment.

☐ Nicholas Lawrence, at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, and Paul Jenkins, of Leicester University, are working with clippings of English yew trees, *Taxus baccata*. The clippings contain Baccatta III, which is chemically similar to taxol. Although it is ineffective against cancer, the scientists are developing a process that can turn it into a synthetic version of the drug.

☐ A similar drug, called taxotere, made from needles of the European yew is also in trials in America and could be available in 18 months. Preliminary tests found that six patients with ovarian cancer improved after treatment.

☐ A synthetic version of taxol is also being pursued. In March last year, a team at Stanford University claimed it had developed a practical way of making the central three-ring core of the taxol molecule.

NICK NUTTALL



هكذا من الأصل

Was Britain made to pay too high a price for victory? The final part of a controversial biography

Churchill's failed gamble

John Charmley questions Churchill's judgment in the concluding extract from his book



Paying court to America: Churchill with Roosevelt on the deck of the Prince of Wales — but was Britain's independence and its empire already mortgaged?

The German invasion of Russia [in June 1941] offered Churchill the only road out of the impasse he was in: with "victory" nowhere in sight and the Americans seemingly oblivious to the future of the British Empire, Russia offered him an ally and the hope that German pressure on Egypt and the Suez canal would be lifted. This was why Churchill hastened unheeding to the support of Stalin. It was, of course, necessary to discount, immediately, communism and the Nazi-Soviet pact and to concentrate on the fact that Britain needed an ally, which explains the character of Churchill's rhetoric; but underneath it all was one simple fact: the prime minister's policy of 1940 had, in effect, failed. Far from securing Britain's independence, it had mortgaged it to America. Of real "victory" there was no prospect, and the national unity which Churchill had forged in adversity in 1940 was beginning to buckle under the strain of a never-ending series of defeats.

Like most of his advisers, Churchill held out no great hopes that the Russians would keep the Germans occupied for very long, but every day counted. In his haste to secure short-term advantages, Churchill neglected to ask himself what political implications his generous rhetorical offers of help to the Soviets might carry. As with the Americans, he too readily assumed that the Russians would put aside other considerations in the common struggle; but of all the Allied leaders, he was the only one who consistently allowed his horizons to be bound entirely by short- and medium-term considerations. The result in this instance was that he failed entirely "to profit from a buyer's market".

That there was a "buyer's market" and an opportunity for Britain to regain some sort of initiative is plain. The fear which the Russians had long had, that the British intended to pull out of the war and leave Hitler to deal with them, had been revived with the flight to England in May of Hitler's deputy, Rudolf Hess. The Soviets saw in Hess's flight the long-awaited sign that the wicked imperialists were about to consummate their design.

Churchill would have been well-advised to have profited from the Russian uncertainty rather than seeking to reassure her that she would not be left alone in the cage with Hitler. Unlike the British and the French, Stalin had not entered the war of his own volition, and unlike the British, he was not the recipient of any tempting peace offers from Hitler. Just as the Soviets had only entered the war when they were kicked into it, so they would remain in it only as long as they could not get out of it.

Churchill's reassurances were to throw away recklessly a card which could have had some value. Eden and Cranborne reminded him on June 22 that "half the country" regarded the Soviet Union as being "potically . . . as bad as Germany", and they took the "Tory standpoint" that aid should be "purely military". This was Stalin's immediate demand, but as the British were in no position to launch an invasion of Europe, they resorted to diplomatic ploys, such as promising that they would make no separate peace and offering the Russians a share in their own lend-lease aid.

Churchill was an enthusiastic proponent of this policy, wishing, indeed, to go further than Eden. But as it became clear that Russia would not be making a quick exit from the war, the political implications of a Russian alliance had to be faced. Stalin showed none of Churchill's reluctance to contemplate the nature of the post-war world.

Churchill's enthusiasm for the Americans made him a rare bird among the British ruling élite. The feeling of being supplanted by the Americans as a world power stimulated anti-American feeling in many quarters in Britain.

Churchill's addiction to the American connection had to be tolerated as long as there seemed no alternative to it, but the Russians offered that alternative. The dangers to be apprehended from Roosevelt staying out of the war and dictating a "Wilsonian" peace along the lines of 1919 seemed amply demonstrated by the results of Churchill's first wartime meeting with Roosevelt at Placentia Bay, off Newfoundland, in August [1941]. It aroused fears that Roosevelt's intention was to "put the USA on top". The spectacle of "an American President talking at large on European frontiers chilled" Eden [he noted in his diary]. Yet, both the Atlantic Charter itself, and American diplomacy preceding the meeting between Roosevelt and Churchill, indicated a determination to control the form of the final peace settlement.

> Churchill's addiction to the American connection had to be tolerated but only as long as there seemed no alternative

The possibility of the British coming to some "deal" with the Soviets was one which perturbed the Americans. Lord Halifax's cavalier dismissal of the people of the Baltic states as not demanding "much respect or consideration", and his blithe acceptance of the possibility of Britain recognising the Soviet conquest of the three Baltic republics, alarmed Roosevelt. He urged upon Churchill the importance of making "no post-war peace commitments as to territories, populations, or economics". The Charter embodied just such a commitment.

For Churchill the prospect of meeting Roosevelt had overshadowed everything else: "He is as excited as a schoolboy on the last day of the term," John Colville [private secretary to Churchill 1940-41 and 1943-45] noted. Churchill had taken a good deal of trouble to cultivate Roosevelt, and, to Eden's distress, he was trying to establish a similar relationship with Stalin; he put a great deal of faith, perhaps too much, in the power of personal relationships.

On one level the meeting was an enormous success. Churchill was careful to "give due precedence" to the president, who was, after all, a head of state, and he referred to himself, several times, as "the president's lieutenant". Much of this was the politics of courtship and should be taken with an appropriate pinch of salt, but in part it reflects the crude realities of the situation in which Churchill found himself.

In all relationships there is the pursuer and the pursued, and there could be no doubt of the position Churchill occupied. Churchill valued his correspondence [prior to the Placentia Bay meeting] with Roosevelt so much because he was convinced that through that medium he could secure more from the president than could be obtained by more conventional means. But there is little sign of this. Indeed, for all the Sunday morning prayer meeting and hymn singing on board the "Prince of Wales", and for all Roosevelt's fascination with Churchill, the British came away from the meeting with little more than a propaganda coup: this might be taken as a paradigm of the Churchill-Roosevelt relationship.

What Roosevelt wanted from the conference Roosevelt got. He wanted to still anxieties that America, by supporting Britain, was also supporting her empire. This the Atlantic Charter enabled him to do.

Britain and America eschewed "aggrandisement" for themselves and set their faces against territorial changes imposed undemocratically. They pledged to "respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live" and to restore self-government to those deprived of it. The question of whether this applied to the countries of the British Empire was, to Churchill, self-evidently not worth asking — of course, it did not; but Roosevelt's view was not necessarily the same. If this third clause was to raise a few British eyebrows, the fourth clause, raised British hackles, as it promised access on equal terms, but with "due respect of their existing obligation", to world trade for all people. It was the final clause in which Churchill invested most hopes in the absence of an American declaration of belligerency. This provided for the disarmament of "aggressor nations" as a prelude to general disarmament and, at Churchill's insistence, the president agreed to insert a phrase about the need for a "wider and permanent system of general security". Churchill chose to interpret the last clause as an implicit promise of American entry into the war.

On July 21 the war cabinet approved Eden's arguments that Britain should support whatever policy the Americans decided upon, despite the risk of war with Japan; the argument that America was bound to become involved in such a war was accepted as axiomatic. At Placentia Bay Churchill had persuaded Roosevelt to agree to a declaration committing America to war in the case of any such Japanese action. This, Cadogan believed, would "give the Japanese a jar". However, for all Churchill's faith that Roosevelt would abide by the declaration, once he was back in Washington the president accepted Hull's decision that it was too "provocative", and it was toned down to a general statement about protection of American rights in the Far East. With both Roosevelt and Stalin, Churchill was to find that bowing in the House of Rimmon was almost a full-time activity.

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● *Edited extracts from* Churchill: The End of Glory, *by John Charmley, published today by John Curtis/Hodder & Stoughton, £30.*

Book review, page 37

END OF GLORY

That Churchill was a great man cannot be doubted, but his flaws, too, were on the same heroic scale as the rest of the man. By the end of the war even Churchill was beginning to wonder what he had achieved and he was resting all his eggs in the basket of American help. His attitude was already making Stalin suspicious of British intentions, and the change in his willingness to contemplate satisfaction of Soviet desires said little for his sense of reality.

At the end of the war he was, once again, faced with what looked like an attempt by one power to dominate the Continent, an odd result for so much expenditure of treasure and manpower, and yet again he sought an alliance to prevent it. Churchill had nothing to offer the British people in 1945, and no one has been prepared seriously to argue that he did. His thinking on foreign and domestic policy was stuck firmly in the past.

Surveying the situation in July 1945 it was hard to argue that Britain had won in any sense save that of avoiding defeat. Churchill had destroyed the awful tyranny of Hitler, but what had risen in its place? Perhaps his own comments to Macmillan in Cairo in 1943 about Cromwell indicate a degree of self-knowledge: "he made one terrible mistake. Obsessed in his youth by fear of the power of Spain, he failed to observe the rise of France. Will that be said of me?" If "Germany" is substituted for "Spain" and "Russia" for "France", then the answer to Churchill's question might well be "yes".

In the final volume of his memoirs he strove to avert any such charge, showing how early he had feared the "iron curtain", but it could be said that he was both too slow and too quick to act: too slow in the sense that the time not to make concessions was 1941-3; too fast in the sense that having made concessions it was foolish to take umbrage so quickly in February/March 1945; but by that stage Churchill was desperate to maintain the American alliance, and this was the only means of doing so.

Churchill stood for the British Empire, for British independence and for an "anti-socialist" vision. By July 1945 the first of these was on the skids, the second dependent upon America and the third had vanished in a Labour election victory. An appropriate moment to stop, for it was the end of glory.

KEY PLAYERS IN A WORLD AT WAR

Anthony Eden (right)
English statesman. Resigned as foreign secretary in 1938 after disagreements with Chamberlain. Became dominions secretary at the outbreak of war and then, in 1940, secretary of state for war and, later in the same year, foreign secretary again. He succeeded Churchill as prime minister in 1955.

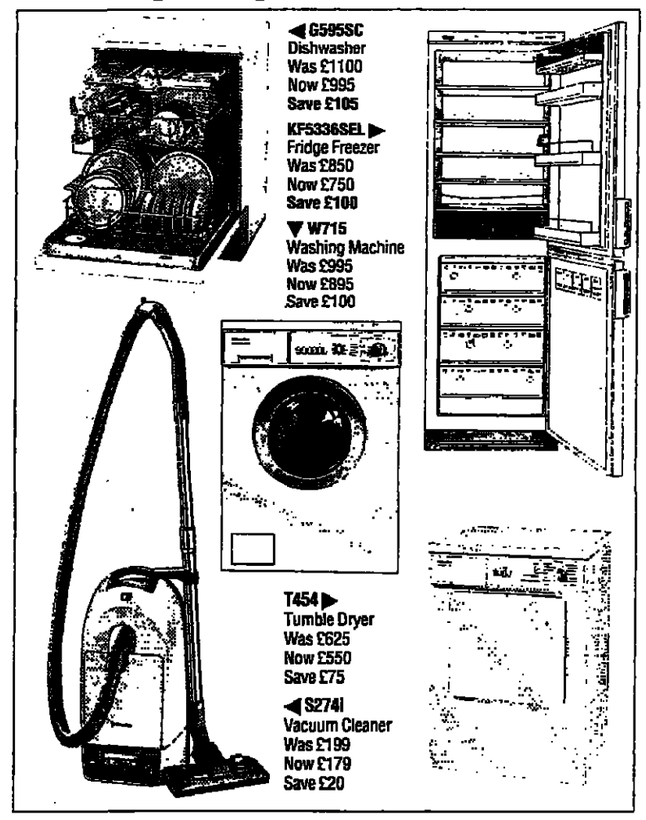


Cordell Hull
American statesman. Served as Roosevelt's secretary of state from 1933 to 1944 and attended most of the crucial wartime conferences. He was a strong advocate of maximum aid to the Allies. He received the Nobel peace prize in 1944.

Viscount Cranborne (Robert Cecil)
English Conservative statesman. In 1935 he became foreign under-secretary and resigned with Eden over appeasement of Mussolini. In the Churchill government of 1940 became paymaster general, then dominions secretary until called to the Lords. He was also colonial secretary and lord privy seal.

Harold Macmillan
English statesman. A parliamentary backbencher until Winston Churchill made him secretary to the ministry of supply in 1940. After a brief spell as colonial under-secretary, he became the became minister resident at Allied headquarters in 1942. Served as Conservative prime minister from 1957 to 1963.

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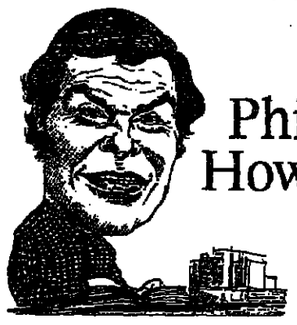
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Philip Howard

■ Summits come round so often that we seem to be bumping along on the crest of the Alps

Whether Winston Churchill was the immaculate patron saint of the bulldog breed, *chevalier sans peur et sans reproche*, or a self-seeking pseud who got lucky, is a debate for the historians and the pseudo-historians. He was more interesting than either. He fought the biggest black dog in custody with copious booze. He wrote well, though to award him the Nobel prize for literature was, as usual, an act of old boys' networking. What he was, indisputably, was a Superhack, who had a top sub's ear for the striking headline.

Among the many original phrases that the old metaphorical daredevil introduced into the national stock of clichés was the image of summitry, in 1950. *The Times* reported him: "It is not easy to see how things could be worsened by a parley at the summit, if such a thing were possible." But in those days there were only a handful of mountaineers, known as the Big Four, and they met for a summit very infrequently. Churchill's metaphor took hold of the world's imagination, disastrously. Summits have got out of hand. They come round so often now that we seem to be bumping along on the crest of the Alps. The peak of metaphorical absurdity was reached at Edinburgh in December, where the summit was held at Holyroodhouse, at the foot of the Royal Mile and the base of Arthur's Seat, and just about the nethermost point available in that craggy city. Summit is an awful example of politics being taken over by its jargon, and changed for the worse.

When you set up even an imaginary summit, *Homo politicus* has to climb it, simply because it is there. The metaphor implies arduous struggle upwards and onwards, followed by achievement and ultimate triumph. This is a bad image for publicity-mad politicians, who would almost always be better employed in cultivating their own gardens, rather than in flashy mountaineering. One of these days things are going to end in tears, with a slide over the precipice.

So now, pretty well once a week, a summit of some sort is being held somewhere in the world. Conference organisers, who are making a packet out of this new summit industry, move into some provincial town with miles of extra wiring, acres of new carpet, thousands of extra telephones and fax-machines, to transform it into a suitable site for a summit. For a couple of days the statesmen of the world and their attendant sherpas and base camp organisers and camp followers move in to scale the latest summit.

Beforehand the spin doctors plant stories in the mountaineering gazettes about the sheerness of the north face of this particular summit, the need for superhuman efforts, and the likelihood of failure. There are dramas and rumours of avalanche, and late-night climbing by chandelier. But the summit always ends in triumph. It has to. That is its métier. The statesmen return home to their lowland villages with pictures of their planting the national flag on yet another political peak. And next week they are off for the next ascent. Down in the valley, life goes on exactly as before; and the summit organisers are left with acres of nearly new carpet and hundreds of slightly soiled telephones to flog off at bargain prices.

Politics was less delusive when so-called world leaders did not go summiteering once a week, but held more leisurely meetings with less proactive names such as congresses or Fields of the Cloth of Gold, suggesting gentler activities than climbing. They were held once a century, and nobody was expected to triumph. The imagery of summits deludes the statesmen that they have to climb every mountain, and are wimps if they don't bring home a triumph. So whoever is president of the European Commission declares in advance what artificial peaks he proposes to climb, and publicity is programmed to make sure that he always pulls it off, if only by his finger-nails. Presidents are meant to preside, not compete with Hillary. The presidency of the EC is now with the Danes, where they can organise a summit-climbing expedition to the highest point in Denmark, 12 feet above sea-level.

The execution of Westley Dodd is a grisly comment on American justice, says Ben Macintyre

The killer's last laugh

Early on Tuesday morning, after studying how *to tie a hangman's noose* in a 19th-century Army execution manual, the official executioner at Walla Walla penitentiary in the state of Washington hanged Westley Allan Dodd.

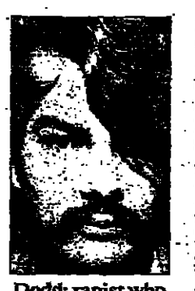
The killing of 31-year-old Dodd, a convicted paedophile and triple child-murderer, was a more than normally gruesome and unsatisfactory affair. While they applauded his execution, some supporters of the death penalty could have wished for a more modern method than hanging, which was last used in America nearly 30 years ago. Opponents of capital punishment saw the execution as evidence of the increasing taste for judicial death in America, which last year killed 31 people, the largest number to die in a single year since the death penalty was resumed in the United States in 1976.

In fact the only person who could be said to be fully satisfied with the execution was Dodd himself. A habitual sexual sadist, Dodd considered himself and was considered by most of the experts who studied him to be incurable, a pitiless sexual predator who revelled in his perversion. "If I do escape, I promise you I will kill and rape again, and I will enjoy every minute of it," he threatened.

Westley Dodd did not want to be cured, he wanted to die. By helping Dodd to carry out what was, in effect, a staged public *suicide the law granted his final* wish — a last-minute burst of violent celebrity. In his last days Dodd received hundreds of fan letters; one woman claimed she loved him. The killing of Dodd was a victory for him alone.

He chose to die by hanging rather than lethal injection, he said, because that was how he had murdered his youngest victim, a four-year-old boy named Lee Iseli, who was raped and tortured for two days before being strangled and hanged in a cupboard by a man who never uttered a word of remorse. Having judged Dodd by the *principle of an eye for an eye*, the law could only agree to his request.

Dodd quite consciously set himself up as a conundrum for the law. Minutes before the trap door was opened, Dodd made a speech from the scaffold in which he *again taunted society* to solve the question of how to deal with those people who are dangerous beyond redemption. "I was asked by somebody", he recalled, "if there was any way sex offenders could be stopped. I said no. I was wrong. I said there was no hope. No peace. There is hope. There is peace." Some interpreted this as a last-minute assertion that men like Dodd could be saved from themselves. More likely he was simply reiterating what he had always said: *the only way to stop* me is to kill me.



Dodd: rapist who chose the gallows

But killing men like Dodd is not a solution, and not just because it allows them to cock one final snook at society. The death penalty is time-consuming, expensive and chronically unfair, prejudiced as it *is by race and* wealth. On another level the death penalty condones revenge, and gives another spin to a vicious and endemic cycle of violence.

More practically, the death *penalty in America applies only* to murderers. But what of the other incorrigible offenders, who share Dodd's grotesque sexual urges but stop short of killing? What of the rapist who is sure to be released eventually, and equally sure to strike again? One such is Donald Chapman, *who having served the maximum* 12-year sentence for rape was released, although he swore to rape again. Mr Chapman is now in his home in New Jersey, technically at liberty but under 24-hour police surveillance.

Dodd was repeatedly arrested for child-molesting; each time he promised to undergo therapy, but he never spent *more* than a few months in prison. Cases like those of Dodd and Mr Chapman are the most compelling argument in favour of permanent incarceration for habitual sex offenders.

The state of Washington, partly in response to the Dodd murders and the transparent failure of rehabilitation, recently *passed laws permitting authorities* to keep in prison sex offenders who are likely to attack again after their prison terms have expired. That law has been bitterly attacked by the American Civil Liberties Union and others who argue that the legislation is unconstitutional *since it penalises individuals not* for what they have done, but for what they might do.

But in some extreme circumstances pre-emptive neutralisation is not only defensible but essential. The state of Washington should not have had to wait for Westley Dodd to rape and kill three children before locking him up forever.

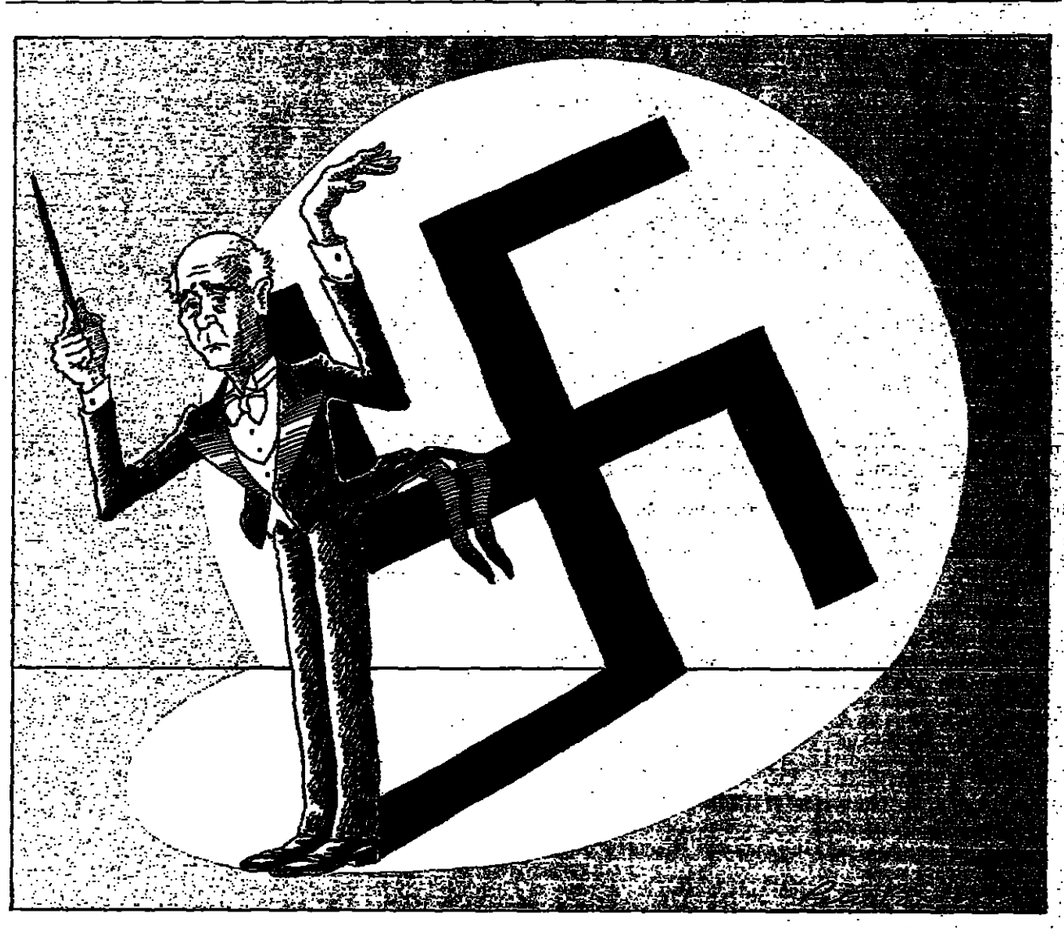
The chances of the Washington state law surviving, let alone being adopted elsewhere, are slim indeed. America, which responded with ill-concealed excitement to the barbaric method of Dodd's passing, has found more simple and entertaining way to deal with sex maniacs.

The notion that killing Dodd will deter other sociopaths is ridiculous, but this week's execution will have one important effect on the way such people are dealt with in America. Dodd chose to die in the most gory way he could find; that will surely make the law feel more comfortable about hanging, or lethally injecting or electrocuting the hundreds of others who will on death row.

The death of Westley Allen Dodd *will not stop people of his* type from killing, but it does mean more people will die; I would probably have enjoyed that fact.

Conductor unbecoming

Bernard Levin leaps to the defence of the artistry of a musician who chose to play on regardless of the evils of Nazi Germany



For many weeks now, a correspondence has been raging in the letters page (nay, pages) of the *TLS*. Actually, two correspondences have been raging, but I gave up long ago the one that consisted of bad-tempered *nit-picking about Philip Larkin*. The one that interests me is ostensibly about the role of the German conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler, one of the very greatest musicians of our, or any, time, and the controversy revolves around his conduct in Nazi Germany.

Before I plunge into the turbulent waters, I must establish at least one credential, and it may well be that among all the disputants I alone can claim it. Whatever Furtwängler did politically in Germany, I heard and saw him doing it musically many times in Britain and in Austria; banned from the United States after the war because *of his equivocal stance in the* time of Hitler (which is what the correspondence is about), he conducted several concerts in London and Edinburgh and Salzburg, and I was there. Young, but there.

What is more, I was there, up in the gods, when he conducted *Fidelio*.

Fidelio! Of all the operas in *Kobbé, that was the one to test* the driest eyes; the second world war was only just over, and on the stage, as we sat like stone before the implications, were all the truths of tyranny and its overthrow, all the stains of cowardice and courage, all the morals of love and hate, all the wisdoms of the present and the past.

Still, I did not come here to reminisce, though perhaps, if *I am right in thinking that the* writers fighting it out in the *TLS* never experienced Furtwängler's music-making, I may have a perspective different from theirs, and one they may wish to heed.

The argument, much compressed, goes like this. Furt*wängler was not a Nazi; but he* stayed in Nazi Germany, when he could have got out with ease, like so many artists — not because they had to (as, of course, Jewish artists did) but because they refused to make their music or writing or painting in the fiery furnace of *unspeakable evil*.

The charge against Furtwängler, then, is that he made Nazi music respectable by his presence; he was the fig-leaf, the veil over the truth which said to the outside world that Germany, with its own idiosyncrasies and attitudes, is but one country among others, recognisable as such — whereas Nazi Germany was not a country but a charnel-house. The defence is that music has no boundaries *and no politics, and that Furt*wängler helped some Jews to survive who would otherwise have perished.

The trouble is that Furtwängler's defence could be put up as the blackest charge in the indictment. Just listen to this (he said it to Toscanini, of all people, who *must* have been sorely tempted to spit in his face):

"Human beings are free wherever Wagner and Beethoven are played. Music transports them to regions where the Gestapo can do them no harm."

That, from him (he was, incidentally, an exceptionally unpleasant anti-Semite) is so monstrous a remark — remember that Mahler and Mendelssohn and all other Jewish composers were banned, and *that Jewish musicians* were bound for the Holocaust — that *it surely condemns him from his* own lips. If it doesn't, try this — he said it after the war, when the case against him was being put:

"I am firmly convinced that, in Germany, people were aware that I did not remain because I was a Nazi, but because I was a German. The public had understood, and I therefore realised it had been right for me to stay. I was frequently told that hundreds of thousands of people recognised in my music a kind of resistance to the Third Reich ... a fulfilment in music of real German patriotism, and for this reason these people considered me something like a last hope ... I knew that a single performance of a great German masterpiece was a stronger and more vital negation of the spirit of Buchenwald or Auschwitz than words."

Mendacity drips from every word; but we must not let disgust blur the words of the courtroom drama. By the end of the war he was probably incapable of telling the truth, or indeed of knowing what it was: this, *after all, was the man who* deceived himself to the extent of believing that because he always kept the baton in his right hand when mounting or leaving the podium, thus avoiding being obliged to give the Hitler salute, he was demonstrating his independence and uprightness.

All in all, he was as great a conductor as he was a lamentable human being. But being a lamentable human being is not the charge levelled against him. *And this is where I speak for the* defence.

There is one rule in these matters which must never be broken: it is that only a hero may demand that other men be heroic. Solzhenitsyn, for instance, has been criticised for rebuking those in the Soviet *Union who would not denounce* tyranny, knowing what the price would be. The criticism, however, is misplaced, because Solzhenitsyn himself shouldered a massive burden of defiance and paid the price; he could do it, why could not they?

The answer, of course, is that few men and women are as brave as *that. True, many men* and women, faced with pain, evil, imprisonment, even death, have found in themselves qualities they did not know they had, but most of us shrink from the ultimate tests; I would. We are not simply cowards, but we rely on the lesser heroism, where the test operated in Nazi Germany at its most dire and inescapable. *No one in Nazi Germany* can be blamed for not resisting, though many did resist; the test is: did you do anything — *anything* — that made things worse, even very slightly worse, for any other person?

Assuredly, Wilhelm Furtwängler passed that test, and went beyond it. Yes, he conducted for Hitler and his monstrous crew; yes, *he lodged in the* O of Hell, when he could and should have left it; yes, he gave music in Nazi Germany a coating of respectability (which, incidentally, was of the most trivial kind, and should not really appear on the charge-sheet); but he saved a handful of human beings from the gas-chambers and the fire.

Are his accusers (Richard Evans is the most notable) *sure* that they, faced with so terrible a choice, would have taken the nobler road, let alone the noblest? I'm not. Remember that Furtwängler was not the only one who stayed; Richard Strauss's conduct in those years was a good deal more shabby than his, and Karajan actually joined the party — and not even from conviction, but for preferment.

I believe that for all the miles of shelves holding books about the Nazi world, no one who did not experience it can truly understand, much less feel, what it was like. We see the Third Reich with our own eyes; that, though, bears no resemblance to anything we can imagine. Wilhelm Furtwängler was neither a saint nor a villain. He was only a weak man living in a murderous madhouse. Would you like to be faced by his dilemma?

I have his recordings on a set of 12 CDs. When I listen to *them, I do not hear Hitler, nor* did he. He heard Beethoven and Mozart, Schubert and Wagner, Bach and Haydn; and so do I. Let him be.

Foreign goes native

WITH the world not exactly short of trouble spots you would expect *the foreign office in London to be a* hive of ministerial activity. And so it would be, if there were any ministers there. But they are all abroad.

Douglas Hurd, as befits the foreign secretary, leads the way, having flown from Nigeria earlier this week to Argentina, the first visit by a British minister since the *Falklands war. Diplomatically, he* leaves Argentina for Chile on Sunday, neatly avoiding being in Argentina on Margaret Thatcher Day in the Falklands Islands.

On his South American travels Hurd could run into Tristan Garel-Jones who, presumably as a diversion from his Maastricht travails, is on a separate tour of Colombia, Peru, Venezuala and Bolivia. "He is flying the flag," a foreign office spokesman says.

Alastair Goodlad is in Fiji on foreign office business, while *Douglas Hogg is abroad on private* business. But spare a thought for *Mark Lennox-Boyd, whose arduous* duty it is to attend the Caribbean Heads of Mission Conference in Barbados for a couple of days. His officials insist it will not

ter has left his Bermuda shorts behind. "It is their winter, you *know," said the official.*

It is left to Baroness Chalker, the overseas development minister, to stay at home and hold the fort. But not for long. At the weekend she is off to Nigeria and Ghana.

A foreign office spokesman, proud of his hard working ministers, says: "Douglas Hurd said last *year that he would like to get* overseas more. When parliament is *in recess ministers usually take the* advantage to travel. Especially foreign office ones. They deal with foreign matters."

Peer pressure

When the government dispatched Lord Caithness, the shipping minister, to the scene of the Shetlands oil tanker disaster, people could have been forgiven for asking: Lord who? But Caithness, who has been beavering away in the middle echelons of government since 1984, is *no stranger to drama.*

The 20th Earl was at the dispatch box when his peroration was disrupted by a group of lesbian activists shouting into the chamber in

Less dramatic moments have *seen him survive more defeats at* the hands of rebellious peers than any of his colleagues in the upper house, including revolts over criminal justice reforms, the poll tax, water privatisation and housing.

Despite these apparent setbacks, Caithness is decribed as a "safe pair of hands" and has held more jobs than any of his ministerial colleagues — first as a whip, then a health and social security minister, with Scotland, transport, the home office, environment, treasury and foreign office, before moving back *to transport. But catching this oily* ball could be beyond even him.

The Word spreads

IN the beginning was the Word ... and it is now available in Be-

taza, Veps and Zapoteco:Amatlán, Bete:Daloa is the language spoken by 500,000 people in the West African nation of the Ivory Coast and it has become the 2,000th language of the Bible, the Gospel of St Mark having been translated into it late last year. Bete:Daloa narrowly beat Yamba, spoken by 40,000 in the Cameroon; Quichua:Pastaza, spoken by 4,000 in Ecuador and 2,000 in Peru; Zapoteco:Amatlán, spoken by 6,000 in the Mexican state of Oaxaca, and Veps, spoken by 13,000 in Russia to become the *2,000th language.*

Canon Bill Andrew, the *communications director of the British* and Foreign Bible Society, says: "We are thrilled that the 2,000 mark has been reached. It can be



hard for us to imagine what it is like to be able to read the Bible in your own language for the first time. The reaction is frequently one of overwhelming joy."

Genius-spotter

ALMOST *inevitably, among the* tributes on television to Rudolf Nureyev will be the acclaimed ITV biography, *Nureyev*. Patricia Foy, the producer, who also gave Nureyev his first professional job in Britain when he performed in a gala on *BBC television in 1962*, left no stone unturned in her pursuit of the facts. In 1990, Foy travelled to Russia to track down Anna Udeltsova, then 101 and living in Leningrad, who discovered the dancer when she was living in the Ural mountains.

"Udeltsova, who had been a Kirov dancer, had been banished to the Urals because her husband had been a colonel in the Tsar's army," Foy says. "She told me, 'I saw this *boy dancing and could not get over* it.' The couple also taught Nureyev *manners, how to hold his knife and* fork, at the dinner table. He took it all in."

Nureyev then saved up enough money to travel to Leningrad to join the Kirov at 17. Two years later he was its principal dancer. The





Technical knockout

IN case you had failed to realise it, 1993 is the European Year of Older People, and to get it off to a flying start the National Theatre is hosting an exhibition entitled "The Creative Powers of Age". The star *of the show is not Matisse, Henry* Moore or Colette, all of whom are featured. It is *Reuben Carl Quist*, 63, (above, in his youth and now) a former boxer from Ghana who now leads with the embroidery needle.

Mary's missionary school in Gh na: "As a child in Ghana, girls a boys were given needles a threads and taught to sew," he sa His hobby was forgotten when took up boxing and in 1948 came to Britain where he box until the late 1950s.

Quist took it up again when was recuperating from boxing in ries and he has been embroider ever since. "I like making pictu of trees and forests. I don't like part with my work. I just do it pleasure". From time to time hankers after the boxing ring: "I limelight was fantastic". I

هكذا من الأصل

OIL SENSE

Public emotion makes bad environmental policy

In flood, hurricane, earthquake or shipwreck, hysteria is an unavoidable concomitant of disasters, whether natural or man-made. Governments come under tremendous pressures to take instant action: for the good reason that delay can often cost lives or compound environmental damage, and for the bad reason that individuals are horrified but helpless to act themselves.

Haste too often makes waste. The history of disaster relief is filled with inappropriate decisions — shipments of food when tents and blankets were needed, or heavy clothing instead of water purifiers and medicines. When human lives are at stake, some degree of early confusion has to be tolerated. In the Shetlands, by contrast, the sacrifice of a few hundred, or even thousand, birds will be worth paying for a carefully thought-out strategy to give maximum protection to the entire ecological chain and to the livelihoods of the islanders.

Delay hardly matches the mood of the moment. No government will want its "inaction" to be unfavourably compared with the frenetic attempts of ornithological environmentalists, who yesterday were planning a dramatic airlift of oil-soaked shags and other victims to the treatment centre in Fife. But only a fraction of these birds can be saved. The more important race against pollution will involve cleaning rockfaces before puffins, guillemots, kittiwakes and other sea-ranging birds return to the Shetlands to breed this spring.

As a general strategy, fleets of aircraft should not be used to spray the oil slicks spreading from the *Braer*. The greatest caution should be employed before augmenting with man-made chemicals the capacity of nature to absorb the oil. Twenty-five years ago in the *Torrey Canyon* disaster, detergents were judged to have created greater environmental damage than the oil itself would have done.

Dispersants have improved since then. There is a case for the judicious early use of chemicals to break up oil before it coats the rocks and beaches around the *Braer*. Less oil will also mean less damage to sea ducks and seals — the fauna whose plight will most distress the public. But with the exception of young fish feeding close to shore, fish suffer little from oil pollution itself.

Detergents, by contrast, turn oil into an emulsion that sinks below the surface of the water and threatens the wildlife the public does not see: shellfish and mussels, the microscopic organisms that sustain sea life, the plankton on which fish feed and the fish themselves — including the Shetlands' sea salmon fisheries, worth an estimated £80 million. Against oil, salmon farmers can set up protective booms and move salmon cages inshore; against chemicals in the food-chain, they are helpless.

Bad weather is said to be inhibiting rescue operations. Certainly, it prevents the use of booms to contain the slick, and sucker ships to hoover out the *Braer*'s leaking tanks. Yet the environmentalists' greatest asset is likely, paradoxically, to be the stormy weather that caused the accident. The longer the storms around the Shetlands persist, the more rapidly gales and heavy seas will disperse the oil, enabling the sea's natural bacteria to digest it.

With the tanker breaking up before the television cameras and Labour suddenly discovering that the government, not God or engine failure, is after all entirely to blame, it would be a brave minister who told the public to pray for bad weather and a foolhardy one who hinted that this might not, after all, be Britain's "worst environmental disaster". A nation watching thick black waves pounding a once untouched coast, blackened otters and pathetic birds poisoning themselves as they attempt the hopeless task of preening their oil-logged plumage, would be outraged. The hardest thing in an emergency is to think before acting, but it is the surest way to prevent an emergency — which undoubtedly exists — from turning into the ecological disaster that the Shetlands have a fair chance of being spared.

STILL IN LABOUR

Lessons from America will not be enough for the Opposition

Everyone loves a winner, and the perennially unsuccessful Labour party is no exception. Bill Clinton's success in ending 12 years of Republican presidential rule last November was bound to ignite a spark of hope in the hearts of John Smith's followers.

For the so-called reformists in the Labour party, Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, Mr Clinton's appeal is obvious. The new president appears to carry little ideological baggage, exudes youthful appeal, and is not utterly beholden to the vested interests of his party. For Labour's traditionalists, the opposite is equally true. To John Prescott, a bull ever in search of a china shop, the party's cloth-cap image and its socialist rectitude are now under threat not just from British voters but American ones too. Wavering in between these smooth and hairy factions is Labour's leader, Mr Smith.

Who is right? The smooth men undoubtedly hold the winning corner, albeit with the necessary qualification that following the example of candidate Clinton cannot guarantee Labour victory. Mr Prescott rightly recalls how Mrs Thatcher was admired for the strength of her convictions. But to say that the same people will automatically turn to Labour if it sticks to its own "conviction policies" is to employ a false syllogism. Voters dislike nationalisation, ties to the trade unions and unilateral disarmament.

American voters were suspicious last year of Democratic presidential contenders seen as too closely tied to a rainbow coalition of minority interests. Mr Clinton, already profiting from the Democratic Leadership Council's ideological spring-cleaning of his party, made his pitch at the majority. As the governor of a southern state where unions are traditionally weak, Clinton could easily parry the charge of dependence on organised labour.

On crime, the candidate was a tough law-and-order advocate who supported the death penalty. He, thus, avoided the fate of Michael Dukakis, destroyed by the guileful Republican strategists who ensnared him in the Willie Horton affair. On welfare, Clinton stepped back from the gospels of liberalism and proposed workfare instead. Labour could profit by all these American lessons.

Positive signs, however, are few. The trade union block vote at its annual conference remains a vote loser; but the system of one vote for each party member has still to be introduced. Neil Kinnock may have curbed extremist Labour councils but the party still remains visibly tied to the public sector. For all its talk Labour still appeals to interests of producers rather than consumers. Although Mr Smith has set up an enquiry into welfare, he prejudged its conclusions by displaying his commitment to universal benefits.

Mr Smith has a particularly patchy record on taxation. As Shadow Chancellor he effectively scuppered his party by introducing an alternative budget during the campaign. Doubtless he will be more cunning next time round but not, on current showing, as clever as Mr Clinton, who avoided making any firm commitments on tax. With a 20 per cent poll lead Mr Smith ought perhaps to be content. But the election will in all probability take place in three to four years' time, when the economy is unlikely to be mired in recession.

Mr Smith's power base and spiritual home are still in Scotland, a country where Labour is traditionally respectable and the party of the majority. The Labour leader has still not shown himself sensitive to his party's poor showing in the south. The voters of Basildon may be unmoved by Mr Major, but they have no love for Mr Smith. Until that changes, the Clintonites of the new Labour party will be no better at winning elections than the prophets of Clause Four.

FREE SPIRIT OF DANCE

Last bow for the genius who changed the face of ballet



Given the choice, how would Rudolf Nuryev have made his final exit? Perhaps in a whirl of pirouettes across the stage of one of the great theatres that he graced and garnished and (on delicious occasions) outraged for three decades and more.

Whatever the role, the curtain would have fallen and Nureyev, as imperious as a Cossack warrior, would have stepped out to receive for the last time that extraordinary frenzy of adulation that was his. No ballet dancer before or since has so captured the public imagination, not even Nijinsky. If Byron had created him, Nureyev could not have possessed more flamboyance. He radiated a colossal boldness; he was a pioneering spirit in dance and in life. Yet he could be the epitome of beauty in motion.

When this unstoppable force collided with the immovable object — the intransigent Soviet system — Nureyev made his leap to freedom at Le Bourget airport. From that headline-grabbing moment in 1961 when he abandoned the Kirov Ballet, abandoned Russia altogether, he was marked for fame. He formed an unlikely but thrilling partnership with Margot Fonteyn. He was a wild youth from the Urals, barely 24, all panther-like power and blatant virility. She was a 43-year-old English ballerina, brought up in a much more genteel tradition. Opposites fused, and one of the great artistic unions of the century was born. So, too, was a new supremacy for the male dancer. The Russian maverick brought to dance the ferocious curiosity possessed only by the supreme performers.

Performing was not just Nureyev's career; it was his obsession. Behind the scenes his demands were not easily met; there were rows, walk-outs, tearful farewells, theatrical reconciliations. He could treat colleagues badly; sometimes he even treated audiences badly. His private life, as exuberant as his stage personae, became very public. But all that only served to feed the legend.

Today his countless devoted fans will not want to remember him by the shoddy tours of his later years. They will recall the Nureyev of the 1960s, in whom physical perfection and astonishing technical gifts were inextricably fused with a voracious appetite for portraying the great passions of existence: love and death, joy and grief. He changed an art form for ever; more important, he touched the lives of millions. That final curtain-call would have been earned a thousand times over.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Impartial advice from the corridors of Whitehall

From Lord Armstrong of Ilminster and Sir Frank Cooper

Sir, In his article, "Is Whitehall turning Tory?" (December 22), Anthony Howard revives some old myths and seeks to propagate some new ones. These should be answered, lest they become the basis for a new bout of "received wisdom" about the public service.

The thesis appears to run as follows: all those who are now permanent secretaries were appointed as such by a Conservative prime minister; when Lady Thatcher was prime minister, she made it clear that the path to preferment in the civil service lay through being "one of us"; being "one of us" meant being at least a Conservative sympathiser, perhaps even a "Thatcherite" sympathiser; the top ranks of the civil service have therefore not retained their traditional political impartiality or detachment, but will if necessary bend the rules and conventions for the benefit of their current political chiefs.

We accept that, in a system where one party had been in power for a very long time — say, 25 years — and had throughout that time followed a sustained and evident policy of preferring those who were known to support them politically in making their senior civil service appointments, the sort of danger at which Anthony Howard hints would be a real one. But we are a very long way indeed from that position.

It is of course a matter of observable fact that all those who are now permanent secretaries have been appointed as such by a Conservative prime minister; it could hardly be otherwise when Conservative governments have been in power continuously for over 13 years.

That does not mean that they are Conservative — let alone "Thatcherite" — supporters or sympathisers. Their careers generally include service in senior positions under a Labour administration. All of them will have served several different ministers since 1979 — ministerial turnover in departments is fairly high.

Senior civil servants will certainly not have lost their "healthy awareness" that governments and ministers can and do come and go, sometimes unexpectedly, and that as civil servants they are required to be able when the time comes to serve, and to retain the confidence of, ministers of a different party from that presently in office.

Both of us were closely concerned, as permanent secretaries for ten years, and in one case as head of the home civil service for six years during Lady Thatcher's time as prime minister, with the process of recommending people for permanent secretary and deputy secretary appointments.

Lady Thatcher certainly took an energetic interest in these appointments: she was keen to avoid any suspicion of "Buggins's turn", and expected to be asked to approve appointments of people whom she could respect as having a combination of high intellectual ability and managerial effectiveness. But the question of political affiliation or sympathies was never raised.

Anthony Howard refers to one particular appointment: that of Sir Peter Middleton as permanent secretary to the Treasury. We are clear that his name would have been on his merits on any shortlist of candidates for the appointment of permanent secretary to the Treasury when Sir Douglas Wass retired in 1983.

The solitary example of undue partiality alleged by Anthony Howard — the matter of the payment of some of Mr Lamont's legal expenses — is under review by the comptroller and auditor general, and we do not propose to prejudge his findings — or the views of the public accounts committee, if it decides to discuss and report on those findings.

Whether what happened was proper or not, it seems to us that there is nothing party-political about this: it would have been equally proper or otherwise, whether the minister concerned had been a member of a Conservative or a Labour or a Liberal Democrat administration.

We do not believe that this episode — about which the full facts are not yet known — is valid evidence that "Whitehall is turning Tory", and we do not believe that that is a present danger. With respect, therefore, we share Anthony Howard's doubts about the need for or usefulness of an ethics commission on the lines suggested by Lord Callaghan.

Parliamentary select committees have the necessary powers, as has the comptroller and auditor general. Moreover, unless it was — perish the thought — a standing commission to act as a kind of court of enquiry on every particular case or allegation as it happened, such a commission could only reaffirm principles which already exist.

Anthony Howard rightly says that "the way government is conducted in Britain has always been a matter of custom and usage rather than of statute and prescription". In this matter, however, the principles have been prescribed, and are already clear beyond a peradventure. They were set out in the following terms in the note of guidance on *Duties and Responsibilities of Civil Servants in relation to Ministers*, issued as recently as December 1987:

> The British Civil Service is a non-political and professional career service subject to a code of rules and disciplines. Civil servants are required to serve the duly constituted Government of the day, of whatever political complexion. It is of the first importance that civil servants should conduct themselves in such a way as to deserve and retain the confidence of Ministers, and to be able to establish the same relationship with those whom they may be required to serve in some future Administration. That confidence is the indispensable foundation of a good relationship between Ministers and civil servants. The conduct of civil servants should at all times be such that Ministers and potential future Ministers can be sure that that confidence can be freely given ... [para. 6].
>
> ... it is the duty of the civil servants ... to give to the Minister honest and impartial advice, without fear or favour, and whether the advice accords with the Minister's view or not ... [para. 7].

The application of these principles — as of any set of rules or principles — has to be a matter for judgment in each particular case as it arises. Civil servants, as fallible as other men and women, may on occasion make a wrong judgment in a particular case, and are in that event likely to have to live with the consequences.

We do not express any view as to whether there has been — or has not been — a wrong judgment in any particular case. We acknowledge the need for continuing — indeed eternal — vigilance in upholding these principles, if the civil service's traditional and inestimable virtue of impartiality is to be preserved. But we believe that the principles are clearly established and well understood, and that there is no good reason to suppose that there is a present danger of their being eroded.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT ARMSTRONG
(Head, Home Civil Service, 1981-7),
FRANK COOPER
(Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office, 1973-6; Ministry of Defence, 1976-82),
New Court,
St Swithin's Lane, EC4.
January 5.

Barrier to making peace with Hitler

From Mr C. W. H. Morton

Sir, Mr Alan Clark ("A reputation ripe for revision", January 2) seems to have overlooked the electoral consequences of his view that Churchill should have reached an agreement with Hitler in 1940 or 1941.

The quinquennial rules required that a general election should be held before November 1940, that being five years after Baldwin's victory in 1935. This election was postponed by agreement of all parties to the grand coalition for the duration of the war and the king gave his assent to this arrangement on a year-by-year basis.

If Churchill had sued for peace, as Mr Clark postulates, the coalition would have come to an end. Parliament would have been dissolved and a general election held.

Who would have led the Conservative party in that election? What would have been its manifesto? I, who remember the national feeling at that time, can assure Mr Clark that a party which had fought an election in 1940 or 1941 on a platform recommending that Poland, France, Norway, Denmark and the Benelux countries be left to their fate would have been treated with contempt — and the return of the Labour party to power might well taken place then instead of in 1945.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM MORTON,
The Dovecote Field,
Brant Broughton, Lincoln.
January 5.

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall North (Labour)

Sir, The controversy over whether the government should have tried to negotiate a peace settlement with Nazi Germany either in 1940 or a year later tends to overlook the views of the Labour members of the Cabinet formed after Chamberlain's resignation as premier.

First, Labour was determined, after the invasion of Poland, that war should be declared against Germany in accordance with treaty obligations towards Poland.

Secondly, the Labour party was totally opposed to any negotiated peace with the Nazi war criminals; in February 1940 — before of course the change of government — the party issued a statement entitled "Labour, the War and the Peace" which emphasised that the overthrow of the Nazi tyranny was essential. It went on to say that the allies ought not to enter into peace negotiations except with a new German government which had not merely promised but had actually totally withdrawn its armed forces from Czechoslovakia and Poland.

As is well known, Labour would not serve in an administration headed by Chamberlain and this in part must have strengthened the chances of a change of premier during the crucial vote in May 1940, following the Commons debate on the Norwegian campaign. Certainly, once in the new Cabinet, Attlee and Arthur Greenwood were strenuously opposed to peace talks with Berlin; Attlee pressed for the bombing of Germany in retaliation for the raids on Britain and the weakness of our ground forces at the time.

Yours etc.,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.
January 5.

Classical top ten

From Mr David Chesterman

Sir, Analysis of all symphonies or movements from them played during 1992 in London's Royal Albert, Royal Festival, Barbican and Queen Elizabeth Halls and St John's Smith Square shows that Beethoven, with a score of 50, has easily regained the lead which Mozart (33) wrested from him in the bicentennial year of 1991.

Haydn and Mahler remain in third and fourth positions respectively, with 29 and 25½ (the Adagietto from No 5), Dvorak and Tchaikovsky have 20¼ each, Brahms has 20 and Shostakovich 16.

The Barbican's splendid Tender is the North festival with its Sibelius cycle has enabled the Finn to clock up 15, while Schubert is tenth with 12. Vaughan Williams (11) nearly made it, while Bruckner and Prokofiev, included last year, have dropped out.

The outright winner is Beethoven's Seventh — played nine times.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID CHESTERMAN,
15 Shire Lane,
Chorleywood,
Hertfordshire.
January 1.

A ban on brackets?

From Mr Michael Russell

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr K. D. Robinson (letter, January 5), complains of your over-use of brackets. Perhaps this is because your new typography contains such tiny marks set so close to the preceding letter that they may no longer be perceived, leaving the bracket the only useful mark.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL RUSSELL,
59 Rosslyn Avenue,
Barnes, SW13.
January 5.

From the Reverend Dr Derek Whitehead

Sir, Archbishop Cranmer was by no means as averse to the use of brackets as Mr K. D. Robinson seems to believe. There are plenty of them in both the prayer books which he composed.

However, since the archbishop died in 1556, it seems unlikely that either he or his clerks can have influenced the typographical policy of the divines who were responsible for the King James Bible in 1611.

Yours sincerely,
DEREK WHITEHEAD,
The Rectory,
Maresfield Park,
Uckfield, East Sussex.
January 5.

The massacre of Christians in Crete, described in Mr John Parfitt's letter yesterday, took place in 1898, not 1896 as printed.

Rental market

From Mr John Dodwell

Sir, Your correspondents (January 4) have failed to mention the main existing government incentive to boost the private rented sector.

Since 1988 — complementing the Housing Act 1988 — private individuals investing in residential investment property companies have been eligible for up to 40 per cent income tax relief, provided certain conditions are met.

Since its inception, the scheme has raised more than £1 billion from private investors. In the current income tax year, an additional £200 million has been raised and a lot more is expected. For historical reasons, the scheme operates under the umbrella of the Business Expansion Scheme. The government recently allocated £750 million to housing associations to expand the rented sector.

In 1992-3, it is more than likely that private investors will provide a similar amount. Why, then, has the government announced its intention to stop the scheme on December 31, 1993? The only logical answer seems to be that the initial five-year period instigated by the government will be over.

However, circumstances now are vastly different from those prevailing in 1988. Is it not Gilbertian to stop an existing incentive scheme when searching for a new one?

If logic has anything to do with it, the scheme should be extended and amended to allow investment institutions to obtain tax benefits as well.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DODWELL,
(Director),
Rolandon Securities Ltd.,
5th Floor, Buckingham House,
62-63 Queen Street, EC4.
January 4.

Footnotes in place

From Professor Lord Beloff, FBA

Sir, Daniel Johnson's article about footnotes (January 2) will be welcomed by all readers of works of scholarship in every field. The only proper place for a footnote is at the foot of the page so that one can, if desired, check a reference without the bother of turning to the end of the chapter or the book.

Chatto & Windus adds insult to injury by publishing *The Shaw Companion* containing the references to Mr Michael Holroyd's life of Bernard Shaw some years after the biography itself appeared.

The only way the new volumes could be of value would be if one were prepared to read the biography again with them beside one; and interesting though I found Mr Holroyd's book, other demands on one's reading time are more pressing.

It is tempting for authors and reviewers to blame publishers in such cases. But that may be unfair. I have just been reading two books of considerable merit from two major publishers; both experiences have been irritating because the references are at the end of the book. Yet I have, within the past five years, had books of my own published by the same two firms and in both cases the publishers acceded to my request to have the footnotes where they properly belong.

It is up to authors to be firm. The kind of potential reader put off by seeing footnotes exists only in the imagination of the kind of people who would never buy a serious book anyhow.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords.
January 2.

Vermeer re-created

From Miss Gene Adams

Sir, Readers of Simon Jenkins's fascinating article (December 26) on the painting of the Guitar Player by Jan Vermeer in the Iveagh Bequest at Kenwood might be interested to hear that in 1980 a "reconstructed" guitar player was organised for children visiting Kenwood.

A qualified musician, dressed in a very carefully made copy of the costume in the painting, with a beautiful replica 17th-century guitar, very similar to the one in the painting, sat before the Vermeer, playing and singing songs and pieces from music from the Baroque period.

The session was a tremendous success, because young children love the idea of a picture "coming to life". However, it was a surprise to those who organised the event to discover that a real musician could not play in the position of the painted figure.

Simon Jenkins remarks that "the right knee beneath the dress is raised ... giving a quick rhythm" to the painting.

This is very true as a description of a visual value, but our musician was quite clear that such a position created an imbalance in holding the guitar, which made it impossible for her to play.

In fact the instrument required support by raising the other knee. This, however, would not have provided that dramatic deep shadow. The painted fingers, too, do not "create" music.

If Vermeer was himself an accomplished musician, it is curious that for this portrait he completely sacrificed "musical veracity". Or is it?

Yours sincerely,
GENE ADAMS
(Museum education consultant),
12 Lawn Road,
Hampstead, NW3.
December 27.

Church and marriage

From Mr T. J. P. Stevenson

Sir, Mr Michael Coultas (letter, December 26) asks "why the Church is involved in marriage at all". The marriage service in the Book of Common Prayer makes it clear that holy matrimony was "instituted of God in the time of man's innocency" and signifies to us "the mystical union that is betwixt Christ and his Church".

Yours faithfully,
T. J. P. STEVENSON,
33 Saxonbury Close,
Crowborough, East Sussex.
December 30.

Making amends

From Mr Douglas Verrall

Sir, From now until Advent, is it not fair that the appellation Scrooge should be used for persons of a reformed, loving and generous character rather than for those who are consistently unrepentant, grudging and mean?

After the visitation of the ghost of Marley and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Future, Ebenezer Scrooge "became as good a friend, as good a master, and as good a man as the good old city knew, or any other good old city, town, or borough, in the good old world".

In this year of his 150th birthday this good man deserves recognition.

Yours sincerely,
DOUGLAS VERRALL,
3 Springfield Road,
St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex.
January 1.

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Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

January 6: Today being the Feast of the Epiphany, a Sung Eucharist was held in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, when the customary offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh were made on behalf of The Queen by Major Nigel Chamberlayne-Macdonald and Captain Michael Fulford-Dobson RN (Gentlemen Ushers to Her Majesty).

The Bishop of London (Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal) was the Celebrant and presented the Offerings, assisted by the Reverend William Booth (Sub-Dean of Her Majesty's Chapels Royal) and the Reverend Gordon Watkins (Priest in Ordinary). The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty in the Chapel.

January 6: The Princess Royal, President, Royal Yachting Association, this morning opened the 1993 London International Boat Show.

Her Royal Highness afterwards attended the combined Royal Yachting Association and British Marine Industries Federation Luncheon at Earl's Court Exhibition Centre, London SW5.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

The Princess Royal, Master, the Worshipful Company of Loriners, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence RN, this evening gave a Court Members' Dinner at Buckingham Palace.

Birthdays today

Lord Bradbury, 79; Judge Hazel Counsell, 62; Mr Hunter Davies, author and broadcaster, 57; Mr Gerald Durrell, zoologist and writer, 68; Sir James Harford, former colonial administrator, 94; Mr Ian La Frenais, screenwriter and producer, 56; Mr Ross Norman, squash champion, 34; the Viscount of Oxfuird, 59; Sir John Page, former chairman, National Ports Council, 78; Sir Alastair Pilkington, president, Pilkington, 73; Lady (Kenneth) Scott, former chairman, Scottish Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, 61; Professor K.W. Sykes, chemist, 72; Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vanneck, former Lord Mayor of London, 71; Mr Will Wyatt, managing director, BBC Network Television, 51.

Appointment

Jan Peter Singer, QC, to be a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Family Division.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: St Bernadette of Lourdes (Marie-Bernarde Soubirous), Lourdes, 1844; Charles Péguy, poet, Orleans, 1873; Francois Poulenc, composer, Paris, 1899.

DEATHS: Catherine of Aragon, first wife of King Henry VIII, Kimbolton, Huntingdon, 1536; Richard Hilliard, miniaturist, London, 1619; Allan Ramsay, poet, Edinburgh, 1758; Sir Arthur Keith, anthropologist, Downe, Kent, 1955; Michinomiya Hirohito, Emperor of Japan 1926-89, Tokyo, 1989.

Memorial service

Major-General Sir Ralph Hone

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Major-General Sir Ralph Hone will be held at the Grand Priory Church, St John's Square, Clerkenwell Road, London, EC1, on Monday, February 8, 1993, at 5.00pm.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.J. Abram and Miss F.K. Galloway
The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Henry C. Abram, of Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire, and Fiona, daughter of Mr Iain Galloway and the late Mrs Jean Galloway, of St Andrews, Fife.

Mr A.W. Atherton and Miss F.H. Durkin
The engagement is announced between Andrew William, son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Atherton, of Ashton on Ribble, Preston, Lancashire, and Frances Hope, daughter of Air Marshal Sir Herbert and Lady Durkin, of Northwood, Middlesex.

Mr A.J.C. Bing and Miss Z.I.D. Muir
The engagement is announced between Andrew, youngest son of Commander Peter and the Hon Mrs Bing, of Edzell, Angus, and Zoë, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Muir, of Aberdeen.

Mr C.R.P. Browning and Miss K. Borwick
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr and Mrs Jeffrey Browning, of Worlingworth, Suffolk, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Mike Borwick, of Northwood, Middlesex.

Dr S.G.W. Bruschini and Miss D.M. Bound
The engagement is announced between Stefano, younger son of Captain and Signora Osvaldo Bruschini, of Genoa, and Deborah, youngest daughter of Dr and Mrs M.H.S. Bound, of St Peter Port, Guernsey.

Mr A.A. Dodd and Miss E.J. Wilson
The engagement is announced between Angus, elder son of Mr and Mrs Guy Dodd, of Long Sutton, Hampshire, and Emma, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Keith Wilson, of Stainforth, North Yorkshire.

Mr J.M. Eva and Miss A.H. Benn
The engagement is announced between Julyan, son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Eva, of Helford Passage, Cornwall, and Alison, daughter of Colonel and Mrs John Benn, of Tredington, Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire.

Mr P.L. de Montille and Miss C.I.R. Stephens
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of the late Mr Leslie de Montille and of Mrs Audrey de Montille, of Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, and Cecely, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Brian Stephens, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Mr R.A. Hambidge and Miss L.J. Hatchwell
Mr and Mrs R.C. Hatchwell, of Little Somerford, have pleasure in announcing the engagement of their daughter Lucy, to Roger, son of the late Major J.A. Hambidge and of Mrs M.C.M. Wincote and stepson of Mr H.W. Wincote, of Llandstadwell.

Mr C.J.H. Henderson and Miss J.E. O'Leary
The engagement is announced between Justin, second son of Mr and Mrs Stuart Henderson, of Kensington, London, W8, and Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Andrew O'Leary, of Great Somerford, Wiltshire.

Mr R.C.M. Henshaw and Senorita R. Amado-Rodriguez
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs R.D. Henshaw, of Streat, West Sussex, and Renè, daughter of Senor and Senora Amado-Rodriguez, of Chiclana de la Frontera, Spain.

The Hon David Hicks Beach and Miss K.L.S. Henriques
The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of the late The Earl and Countess St Aldwyn, of Williamstrip Park, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Kate, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Henriques, of Winson Manor, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

Mr T.F. Keeling and Miss S.P. Collins
The engagement is announced between Thomas, sixth son of Mr and Mrs Michael Keeling, of Sedlescombe, Sussex, and Siobhan, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Collins, of Castle Cary, Somerset.

Mr S.E.H. Howard and Miss P.A. Rust
The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of Mr and Mrs Alan Howard, of Norwich, and Philippa, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Lyndon Rust, of May Hill, Gloucestershire.

Mr N.J.E. Maude and Miss B.A. Sword
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mrs Dor Maude and the late Brigadier Neil Maude, RM, of Wheathill, Somerset, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Sword, of Upper Froyle, Hampshire.

Mr W.L.H. Mills and Miss D.M. Wilson
The engagement is announced between William, younger son of Major-General and Mrs Giles Mills, of Twyford, Hampshire, and Deborah, daughter of Canon and Mrs Michael Wilson, of Preston, Rutland.

Mr J.F. O'Callaghan and The Hon S-J. Glyn
The engagement is announced between John Francis, younger son of Mr and Mrs James O'Callaghan, of County Clare, Ireland, and Sara-Jane, elder daughter of Lord Wolverton, of London, SW6, and Mrs Gerald Oldham, of Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr J.E. O'Hare and Miss A.J. Springett
The engagement is announced between John O'Hare, of York, and Alison, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Springett, of Chigwell, Essex.

Mr A.R. Pendrill and Miss B.A. Mullaney
The engagement is announced between Andrew Richard, son of Mrs C.M. Pendrill, of Caterham, Surrey, and Barbara Anne, elder daughter of Mrs M.T. Mullaney and the late Mr J.V. Mullaney, of New York, USA.

Mr M.R.D. Pepper and Miss V.J. Beazley
The engagement is announced between Michael, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Pepper, of Redbourn, Hertfordshire, and Vanessa, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Beazley, of Hampstead, London.

Mr P.G. Phillips and Miss G.J. Hewitt
The engagement is announced between Peter, second son of Mr and Mrs W.F. Phillips, of Schenectady, New York, and Gillian, only daughter of Dr and Mrs F. Hewitt, of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire and Rochester, New York.

Mr P.R. Phillips and Lady Georgina FitzClarence
The engagement is announced between Paul Robert, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Phillips, of Blaby, Leicester, and Georgina Abigail, youngest daughter of the Earl of Munster and Pamela Viscountess FitzClarence, of Surrey.

Mr C.S. Reed and Miss R.M. Oxley
The engagement is announced between Christopher, eldest son of Mr Denys Reed, of Wimbledon, London, and Mrs Roger Liddiard, of Slinfold, Sussex, and Rachel, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Oxley, of Queen Camel, Somerset.

Mr W.A. Ritson and Miss V.A. Barran
The engagement is announced between William, son of Captain and Mrs Tim Ritson, of Ebnal Grange, Malpas, Cheshire, and Verena, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Barran, of Hildenley, Malton, North Yorkshire.

Mr A.R. Scrope and Miss S.P. Ward
The engagement is announced between Adrian, youngest son of the late Mr and Mrs A.C. Scrope, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr Gerald Ward, of Chilton, Hungerford, and of the Hon Lady Morrison, of Madresfield Court, Malvern.

Lieutenant Commander N.P. Smith, RN, and Miss K.I. Stafford
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr and Mrs P.M. Smith, of Bailey, Hertfordshire, and Karen, eldest daughter of Professor and Mrs G.D. Stafford, of Wenvoe, South Glamorgan.

Mr S.M. Spearing and Miss L.T. Kuhn
The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Simon Spearing, of Cheam, Surrey, and Lisa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Kuhn, of Wisconsin, USA.

Mr K.R.F. Temple and Miss T.V. Lion
The engagement is announced between Keith, son of Mr and Mrs John Temple, of Dunfermline, Fife, and Tamsin, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Lion, of Farnham, Surrey.

Mr T.J. van der Hooca and Miss C. Murfin
The engagement is announced between Tony, eldest son of Mr and Mrs J.A.A. van der Hooca, of Wellington, New Zealand, and Charlotte, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D.J. Murfin, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

Mr H.C.K. Waddell and Miss R.S. Howard
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Dr and Mrs James Waddell, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, and Rowan, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Tony Howard, of Coed-y-paen, Gwent.

Mr R.S. Williams and Miss C. Bowring
The engagement is announced between Rodger Simon, son of the late Fred Alston Williams and of Mrs Esther Williams, of Burnage, Manchester, and Camilla, younger daughter of Major-General and Mrs John Bowring, of Coln St Aldwyns, Gloucestershire.

Marriages

Mr G.J. Darby and Miss M.J.M. den Brinker
The marriage took place on Friday, December 18, 1992, at Southwark Cathedral, London, between Mr Gregory John Darby and Miss Melanie Jane Margaret den Brinker. The Provost of Southwark, the Right Rev Dr D.L. Edwards officiated with the Rev T. Farell, Rector of St Margaret's Lothbury, London.

Mr W.E. Sweeney, MP, and Dr N. Kennan
The marriage took place in Dublin on December 29, 1992, of Mr Walter Sweeney, MP, and Dr Nuala Kennan.

School news

Chigwell School

Lent Term at Chigwell School starts today and ends on Friday, March 26. Entrance examinations for 11 year age group entry and Harsnett Scholarship examinations will be held on Saturday, January 9, and for 7 to 10 year age groups on Saturday, January 23. The Music Scholarship auditions will be held on Friday, February 5. The Lent Term Concert will take place on Tuesday, February 9. Old Chigwellians who wish to attend the Shrove Tuesday Supper on February 23 should contact the Headmaster's Secretary.

St Dunstan's College

Lent Term began on January 6 and will end on March 31 except being from February 20 to 8. Dr A.F. Seldon has joined the college as Deputy Head. Mr T.G Pratt becoming the other Deputy. J.B.H. Nisbet continues as Head of School. The College orchestra and choir will be giving a concert at Southwark Cathedral on March 15, and the Preparatory department will be performing *The Pied Piper* on March 25 and 2. The Inspecting Officer for the CCF's Annual Review on March 8 is Captain V.H. Lucas, RN (The Captain, HMS Collingwood). There will be an Open Morning on January 16 for parents considering entering their sons for St Dunstan's College and the Entrance Examination will be held on January 26.

Today's royal engagements

Prince Edward will attend the London Promotion gala reception at Mme Tussaud's at 6.45.

The Princess Royal, as Master of the Loriners' Company, will attend a trade liaison and finance committee meeting at Guildall at 9.30; and will give an address at a seminar on UK Contribution to Water Supply and Sanitation in Developing Countries at the Institution of Civil Engineers at 1.55.

TEL: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313

Choose my instruction rather than silver, knowledge rather than pure gold: for wisdom is better than red coral, and no jewel can match her. *Proverbs 8 : 10,11*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CARR - Tommy Carr wishes to express his appreciation of the sympathy shown by all following the death of his beloved wife Mary. She will be greatly missed but is in the hands of God.

BIRTHS

BARRATT - On 6th January 1993, to Jan (née Gulley) and Ian, a son, Oliver George, a brother for Michael.

BARROW - On January 2nd, to Vanessa and David, a son, Robert Frederick.

BILLYARD - See Denny.

COXON - On January 5th in Antwerp, to Felicity (née Muncey) and Andrew, a daughter, Zoë Grace Constance.

DENNY - On January 2nd at The Royal Free Hampstead, to Lynda Billyard and Christopher Denny, the gift of a son, William Alexander Henry Guy, a brother for James and Sian.

EDMUNDS - On 14th December, to Keith and Tamsin (née Farlam), a son, James Gordon Marchand.

EMMET - On December 28th 1992, in Dublin, to Victoria and Philip, a son, Thomas Timothy James Robert.

EVANS - On January 4th 1993, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Catherine (nee Gilchrist) and Nicholas, a son, Alexander Warren Arthur

GORDON - On January 3rd, to Rachel (née Broadley) and Richard, a son, James Edward Brownrigg.

GRAY - On January 2nd 1993, at Leighton Hospital, Crewe, to Amanda (née Oakden) and Lee, a daughter, Georgina Emily Louise.

GRIER - On December 24th, to Anjali (née D'Souza) and Francis, a daughter, Savitri Patricia.

KITCHING - On January 5th 1993, to Sarah-Jane (nee Blaker) and Simon, a daughter, Vanessa Camilla Daisy.

MADDEN - On 27th December 1992, to Sarah (nee Thomas) and Paul, a son, Rupert Christian St John, a brother for Sebastian.

McNICOL - On December 20th 1992, to Frances (née Davey) and Iain, are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their daughter Charlotte Frances, a sister to Hamish, in Napier, New Zealand.

MORTON - On December 31st 1992, at University College Hospital, to Jean (née Howorth) and William, a son, Robert Andrew Kenneth, a brother for Alice and Isobel

NOMIKOS - On January 5th 1993, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, Hammersmith, to Alexandra (née Marshall) and Ioannis, a son, Nicholas John.

PIAZZA - On 21st December, in Melbourne, Australia, to April (nee Brophy) and Rob, a daughter, Marissa Louise.

ROLLS - On January 6th 1993, to Jacqueline (nee Hawkins) and Ralph, a daughter, Olivia Fitzgerald, a sister for Patrick and Francis

VASANI - On 4th January, at St George's Hospital, Tooting, to Vanessa (née Young) and Gautam, a son. Congratulations from June.

WEBB-BOWEN - On December 10th 1992, to Georgina (née Spratt) and Anthony, a son, Alexander.

WISE - On 4th January, to Sarah (nee Harding) and Oliver, a son, Henry Gerard Dacres.

YOUNG - On December 29th, to Alexa (née Urquhart) and Mark, now of Alice Springs, N.Ter., Elise and Caitlin.

ZIELINSKI - On November 24th 1992, to Lindsay (née Howlett) and Andrew, a daughter, named at last, Louisa Hannah, a sister for Sebastian.

DEATHS

ALLAN - On January 1st 1993, peacefully in hospital, Christian-Ann, wife of the late David and loving mother of Arthur. The cremation will take place at Ipswich Crematorium, West Chapel, on Thursday January 14th at 11 am. Flowers to Woolnoughs Funeral Service, The Chapels, Hollon Road, Halesworth, Suffolk.

ALLEN - Suddenly in hospital on January 5th 1993, aged 68, Dr. E Mary Ellen (Willie) of Sissinghurst, Kent. Beloved wife of John and mother to Ruth and Graham. Funeral Service to take place at Charing Crematorium on Thursday January 14th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to N.S.P.C.C. or Greenpeace c/o K.B. Sills Ltd. tel: (0580) 712284.

BEATTIE - On January 5th, peacefully at home, John, MD, FRCS, FRCOG, aged 90. Late of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London. Dear husband of Dorothy and the late Marjorie. "With Christ which is far better". Funeral at St Mary's Parish Church, Reigate, at 2 pm on Tuesday January 12th. No flowers by request. If desired gifts to Bible Society or Tear Fund.

BOARDMAN - On January 3rd at his home in Eynsford, Kent, John Boardman, J.P., after a long illness fought with typical determination and courage. Funeral Service at St Botolph's Church, Lullingstone, on Thursday January 14th at 11 am and afterwards at Eltham Crematorium 12.15 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to the Ellenor Foundation, Livingstone Hospital, Dartford DA1 1SA or the Cancer Research Campaign, c/o J. Clubb Ltd., Church Hill, Wilmington, DA2 7DZ.

BULMER - On 5th January, peacefully at his home after a prolonged period of ill health, Bertram of Brelnton, Hereford, aged 90. Private cremation, no flowers, donations to Hereford Cider Museum Trust, Hereford, HR4 0LW. A gathering to remember his life will be held later.

CARDWELL - Dr. John, on January 5th, peacefully in Cannes, Côte d'Azur, France. Funeral at 10 am on 11th January at the Anglican Church, Avenue Général Ferrié, Cannes. Flowers to Athanée de Cannes, 223 Avenue de Grasse. Alternatively, donations to Sunnybank, Anglo-American Hospital, 133 Avenue du Petit Juas, 06400 Cannes.

CHAPLIN - On January 4th, peacefully in Philadelphia, aged 77, Agnes, widow of Charles G Chaplin, survived by her daughter Sara Zug and two grandchildren. Funeral in Bryn Mawr on Friday. No flowers please. Donations to a favourite cancer charity.

CLEMENT BROWN - Sibyl O.B.E., aged 93 years, on January 4th 1993, peacefully at home in Swanage. Much loved and greatly missed by family and many friends. Funeral Service at Poole Crematorium on Friday January 15th at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only please but donations to Oxfam c/o James Smith F/D, 60A Kings Road, Swanage. Dorset, tel: (0929) 422445.

DAFLYN - Ronald George, Lt. Cdr. RN (retired) at Shirburn, Watlington, Oxford. Peacefully at home on January 3rd 1993 after a short illness. Interment 2.30pm Saturday January 9th at St Mary's Parish Church, Pyrton, Oxford. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to the R.N.B.T. c/o Surman & Horwood Funeral Service, 25 High Street, Princes Risborough, HP27 0AE.

FLETCHER - On January 5th 1993 at Cartref, Llanishen, Cardiff, Nancy Howard Fletcher M.B.E. aged 92 years, only daughter of the late Howard and Mary (née Sweet-Escott), sister of the late Randell and Bickham, a loving aunt, great-aunt, great-great aunt and long-time friend of Jo Pryce. Funeral on Thursday January 14th, service at 2pm in St Isan's Church, Llanishen and afterwards at Thornhill Crematorium. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Llanishen Church Restoration Appeal c/o Mr R White, 24A Heol Hir, Llanishen.

DEATHS

FOLLEY - On Tuesday 5th January, peacefully, Elsie of Harleyford, Marlow. Beloved mother of Geoffrey and Brian, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at St Mary the Virgin, Hambledon, Bucks, 2.30 pm on Tuesday 12th January. Family flowers only. Donations to The Parkinson's Disease Society c/o David Silver Funeral Directors, Westbourne Grove, London W2 4UL.

GOODRICH - Sasha Goodrich Bernath, early on January 3rd. Dearly loved mother of Antonia. Funeral has taken place.

GRAHAM - Gloria (Née Lacroze). On 5th January, peacefully at home in Switzerland.

HICKEY - Eveleen Mary, peacefully on January 1st 1993, Daughter of the late Lt. Colonel Julian and Gladys Hickey and beloved sister of Patrick, Ann and Rose. Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Loretto Church, Leyborne Park, nr. Kew Gardens Station, at 1.30 pm on Thursday January 14th, followed by interment at Barnes Cemetery, Kings Ride Gate, Sheen Road, Richmond. Flowers to T.H. Sanders, 35 Barnes High Street, SW13 9LP.

HOUTAPPEL - Dr. H.C.E.M. (Pieter) aged 90 years on January 3rd, peacefully after a short illness. Funeral Service at the City of Norwich Crematorium on Tuesday January 12th at 2.30 pm. No flowers by request. Enquiries to Tennant Funeral Services (0953) 881229.

HUGHMAN - On January 4th 1993, John, aged 73, only son of Gordon and Muriel, brother of Dorothy. All enquiries to T.A. Ellement & Son Ltd. (081) 866-0324.

JOHNSTONE - On January 4th 1993, Roy Douglas, aged 71 years of Ashton House, Lochmaben, Dumfriesshire, formerly of Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd., China and Hong Kong. Husband of Elizabeth and father of Fiona, Lewis and Andrew and grandfather of Joseph, James and Alexander. Funeral Service at Ashton House and thereafter to Lochmaben Cemetery on Friday January 8th at 11am. Floral tributes to Thertarra, Lochmaben.

KEPPEL-COMPTON - Peacefully on January 5th, at Bush House Nursing Home, Pembroke, Marjorie, aged 90, wife of the late R.H. Keppel-Compton CMG and much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Narberth Crematorium on Monday January 11th. Family flowers only, but donations if desired in aid of Health Aid Mayo for Malawi, c/o John Roberts, Funeral Directors, 51 Bush Street, Pembroke Dock, SA72 6AN.

LAWTON - On 4th January 1993, peacefully in a nursing home, Dora May in her 90th year, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, formerly of Uppermill. Dearly loved mother of Peter and Bernard. Service at Macclesfield Crematorium on Monday 11th January at 2 pm. Family flowers only. All enquiries to Jeremy Unsworth, Funeral Service, 67 Church Road, New Mills, tel: (0663) 742772.

LINDSLEY - On January 1st at the Nuffield Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, Ethel Muriel aged 83 years, dearly loved wife of the late Richard Middleton Lindsley and mother of David and Richard, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at Christ Church, Sunderland, on Friday January 9th at 1.15 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Stomach Ulcer and Cancer Fund c/o Mr S.M. Griffin, General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.

MAHONEY - On Boxing Day, Robert William (Bob), brother of the late John Mahoney peacefully at home at Blackheath. Enquiries to Bryan O'Connor & Co.

DEATHS

MESSITER - Daphne Messiter née Riggs on 31st December 1992 at home aged 91. The widow of Eric Messiter and the aunt and great-aunt of Brookes and Messiters. Funeral service and cremation on Friday 22nd January at noon in West Chapel, Golders Green Crematorium, London NW11. Flowers welcome c/o J.H. Kenyon, 83 Westbourne Grove, London W2 4UL.

MORRIS - On Tuesday 5th January 1993, peacefully at St Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham, Jenny aged 49. Beloved daughter of Eve and the late Geoff 'Romans of Trowbridge, Wilts. Funeral Service at 12 noon on 12th January at St Paul's Church, Brackley Road, Beckenham, Kent, followed by cremation at Beckenham Crematorium, Elmers End Road, Beckenham at 1 pm. Flowers before 10.30 am to Francis Chappell Funeral Directors, 258 High Street, Beckenham (tel: 081-650 0304) and/or donations if desired to St Christopher's Hospice c/o Francis Chappell as above.

NORTON - Dianne Margaret (Dianne Jackson), died Brockenhurst, New Year's Eve. Beloved wife of David, mother of Daniella and Alexander, daughter-in-law of Jill and Jack Norton (Cowes).

NUTLAND - Keith. On January 5th at Cheltenham General Hospital after a courageous fight against cancer, borne with his usual good humour. Treasured husband and best friend of Daphne, proud and loving father of Joanna, Elizabeth and Will and father-in-law of Andy. Funeral Service St Mary's, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, 2 pm Monday, 11th January. Family flowers only but if desired donations for Oxfam or Cheltenham Scanner Appeal, c/o Amos Wilson & Son, 247 Swindon Road, Cheltenham.

PESCOD - Richard Frankyn, O.B.E., retired H.M.S. Inspector of Mines and Quarries of Brecon, died suddenly on 4th January 1993, loving husband of Mary Doreen, devoted father to Christine and Elizabeth and stepfather to Michael and much loved grandfather. Funeral Service to take place in Liwydcoed Crematorium, Aberdare, Glamorgan, on Monday 11th January at 1 pm. Family flowers only. All enquiries to Peter Evans, Funeral Director, Brookfield, Groesffordd, Brecon. tel: (0874) 86608.

POUS - Claudine, on November 27th 1992, in Marseille after a short illness. Greatly missed by her friends and colleagues, and by the pupils at Francis Holland School, Graham Terrace, where she taught for many years. A prize will be created in her name.

RAMPTON - On Saturday January 2nd 1993, John, aged 61 years, husband of Isobel, father of Richard and Andrew. A dearly loved husband, father and friend who will be greatly missed. Funeral Service at Reading Crematorium on Tuesday January 12th at 10.30 am. No flowers, please. If desired donations by cheque for either R.N.L.I., the National Trust or the British Heart Foundation, c/o A.B. Walker & Son Ltd., 36 Eldon Road, Reading.

ROBERTS - On 6th January 1993, Phyllis Daisy. The funeral will be on Saturday 9th January at Oxford Crematorium at 11 am.

ROQUES - On January 2nd 1993, peacefully at home in Swaziland after a long illness courageously borne, Giles Roques, aged 44 years. Beloved husband of Rose and father of Kim, Joey and Mollie. Funeral in Swaziland. Memorial Service in London to be announced later. Donations for educational and hospice work in Swaziland payable to Dr. A. Roques (Giles Roques Memorial Account No. 85707980), NatWest Bank, Hailsham, Sussex (branch code no. 600926).

SANDERS - On January 6th 1993, Theo, Managing Director of Apperley Honing Ltd. Beloved husband of Ann, much loved father of Adrian, Jennie, Hugh and Charles and a loving stepfather and grandfather. Enquiries to Selim Smith & Co.

DEATHS

STAHL - On January 2nd, peacefully in hospital, Kathleen, widow of Professor Ernest Stahl. Cremation private.

WYMAN - On December 31st, suddenly at home, Phyllis Mary Grace. Devoted wife of Marcel, dear mother of Neal and the late Nicholas and adored grandmother of Rupert and Poppy. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the NSPCC. Funeral at St Simon Zelotes Church, Chelsea, on Monday January 18th at 2.30 pm.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FISHER - A Thanksgiving Service for the life of Captain R.R.S. Fisher CBE, DSC, RSMA, will be held at 2.15 pm on Friday 15th January at St John the Baptist Church, Snape, Suffolk.

WARD - Wilfrid John Francis. A Memorial Service will be held at St Peter's R.C. Church, Jewry Street, Winchester, at 3.30 pm, Thursday January 21st 1993.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

FISHER. F.J. Professor Emeritus. Died January 7th 1988. Remembered with affection by innumerable former students and others, but particularly by Barbara, Teresa and Matthew.

MOYSE - On January 7th 1961, Mary Adelaide Moyse died aged 78, the widow of Arthur Moyse, musician, and the mother of their only son. She spent her life upon her knees cleaning the houses of the mighty and her glory was her life. You who read this salute her.

WRIGHT - A. Dickson. Still remembered for all your outstanding work, kindness and humour.

WRIGHT - Dr. R.B.D. (Douglas). Endless love on your birthday. Olivia.

LEGAL NOTICES

Bernard Webber of Hendon Limited - In Administrative Receivership -
Registered Number: 826129
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the concerned company will be held at the Sherlock Holmes Hotel, 108 Baker Street, London W1M 1FA on Wednesday 20 January 1993 at 1100 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stag Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, not later than 1200 hrs on Tuesday 19 January 1993 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
P G Byrne
Joint Administrative Receiver

JOSEPH PARKINS AND COMPANY LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, P.W.J. Hartigan of South West House, NEW Hall Mews, Rickmansworth Road, Watford, Hertfordshire WD1 7HG was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on 22nd December 1992 by the Members and Creditors.
Dated 7th January 1993
P.W.J. Hartigan, Liquidator.

NOTICE TO THE CREDITORS OF: CHRISTIE MORRICE GROUP (HOLDINGS) LIMITED
Company No: SCO 76129
CHRISTIE MORRICE ELECTRICS LIMITED
Company No: SCO 53242
CHRISTIE MORRICE ELECTRICS (NORTHERN) LIMITED
Company No: SCO 70840
E & D ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS LIMITED
Company No: 1699777
ELECTRICAL WHOLESALERS (DONCASTER) LIMITED
Company No: 0851107
ELECTRICAL WHOLESALERS (ST HELENS) LIMITED
Company No: 846388
H CLARKSON (ELECTRICAL) LIMITED
Company No: 764256
HP HUNTER LIMITED
Company No: 2462761
J M YATES LIMITED
Company No: 711625
(ELECTRICAL) LIMITED
Company No: 646519
ERD (SOUTH WEST) LIMITED
Company No: 850209
ERD (MIDLANDS) LIMITED
Company No: 2225896
CHESHIRE & NORTH WALES ELECTRICAL LIMITED
Company No: 359831
FRANK S POLDEN LIMITED
Company No: 856004
NETWORK TOOLS LIMITED
Company No: 1405753
BENWELL ELECTRICAL (WORKS) LIMITED
Company No: 848044
FORT ELECTRICAL WHOLESALE LIMITED
Company No: 1488783
ROBERT NEILL & CO (SHEFFIELD) LIMITED
Company No: 2202682
THE THAMES ELECTRICAL CO LIMITED
Company No: 851441
A CHILTON & CO
Company No: 343014
ELECTROWARES LIMITED
Company No: 417213
(In Members' Voluntary Liquidation)
On 21 December 1992 the above companies were placed in member's voluntary liquidation and Ian Clifford Powell and Anthony John Patrick Brandon of Price Waterhouse, York House, York Street, Manchester, M2 4WS were appointed joint liquidators by the shareholders.
The liquidators gave notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidators at the above address by 31 January 1993, which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidators also give notice that they will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
Dated 21 December 1992
I C Powell, Joint Liquidator
A J P Brandon, Joint Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 LAKELAND SHEEPSKIN CENTRE LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)
Registered Number: 1176716
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Halpern Weiss & Partners, Halpern House, 301-306, Euston Road, London, NW1 3BB on Monday 11th January 1993 at 10.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Pursuant to Section 98(2) of the Act list of names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Halpern Woolf & Partners, Insolvency Practitioners, Halpern House, 301-306, Euston Road, London, NW1 3BB on the two business days falling next before the said meeting.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Dated this 28th day of December 1992
D.M. Johnson, Chairman

LEGAL NOTICES

JAY'S ENTERTAINMENTS LTD - In Administrative Receivership -
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the concerned company will be held at Sherlock Holmes Hotel, 108 Baker Street, London W1M 1FA on Wednesday 20 January 1993 at 1100 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stag Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, not later than 1200 hrs on Tuesday 19 January 1993 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986, and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
P G Byrne
Joint Administrative Receiver

IN THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 TMD LIMITED (In Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of TMD Limited will be held at Number One, London Bridge, London, SE1 9QL on 19th day of January 1993 at 10.30 am. The Statutory Report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.
A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the administrative receivers at Number One, London Bridge, London, SE1 9QL no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the provisions of the Rules.
Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the administrative receivers at least 24 hours before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debt after deduction of the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented.
Dated the 21st day of December 1992
J F Bolton
Joint Administrative Receiver

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 LAKELAND OUTLOOK LIMITED (IN RECEIVERSHIP)
Registered Number: 1856812
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 11.00am on Friday 15 January 1993 at St James' Club, St James' House, 7 Charlotte Street, Manchester, M1 4DZ for the purposes mentioned in Section 48 and 49 of the said Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.
Creditors should note that the meeting is not for the purpose of appointing a liquidator to the company.
Dated this 23rd day of December 1992
I C Powell
Joint Administrative Receiver

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
Citrold Lander (Holdings) Limited
Registered Number: 02811420.
Nature of business: Owners Guidance Consultancy. Trade classification: 41. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 16 December 1992. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver: The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: Raymond Hocking and Anthony Peter Supperstone. (office holder nos: 2322/01

هكذا من الأصل

OBITUARIES

RUDOLF NUREYEV

Rudolf Nureyev, ballet dancer, died in Paris yesterday of cardiac complications, resulting from Aids, aged 54. He was born on a train in Transiberia on March 17, 1938.



Nureyev during rehearsal of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Coliseum in June 1980

WITH his grace and athletic prowess, Rudolf Nureyev was one of 20th century ballet's most extraordinary and charismatic figures. He dominated the world of ballet, by a force of personality and an eagerness, a greed even, to perform that has been rivalled only by Anna Pavlova in her great pilgrimage of dance around the world. Like Pavlova, Nureyev could and did dance unceasingly, more indeed than any dancer except Pavlova in this century. And like Pavlova's, his name became synonymous for the general public — far removed from the closed world of the theatre — with the art he served with such passion.

Rudolf Hametovich Nureyev was a Tatar, born on a train travelling round Lake Baikal near Irkutsk. A difficult childhood spent in the town of Ufa during and just after the war was enlightened by his scholastic ability and then by a first sight of professional dancing which determined him that this must be his career. By the age of 11 he had the good fortune to be taken under the wing of a former member of the Diaghilev corps de ballet, Anna Udeltsova: she it was who confirmed that the boy should become a dancer. Despite family opposition, the young Nureyev persisted in seeking training, basic though it was, and even then his determination was finally to bring him — after setbacks and battles into which his temperament led him — to

> 'The young man was already a stormy petrel'

his ultimate goal, the Vaganova School in Leningrad. Here, in the cradle of Russian ballet, he had the immense good fortune to enter the class directed by a master pedagogue, Alexander Pushkin, who saw that in this raw, difficult, gifted 17-year-old, there was the potential for greatness.

In his student years with Pushkin, Nureyev's talent was shaped, his temperament focused upon work, his insatiable need for information slaked by the opportunities to learn repertory. On graduation into the Kirov Ballet — a fact that had seemed wholly unlikely to his contemporaries when he joined the school — Nureyev was given the extraordinary accolade of appearing with Natalya Dudinskaya, the reigning prima ballerina of the company, as his first professional engagement. In the next three years he danced principal roles in much of the repertory with a series of leading ballerinas, his performances in Leningrad already surrounded with a theatrical magic that his every interpretation would generate thereafter. But the young man was already a stormy petrel. He queried official decisions, sought extra occasions to dance. During the Kirov Ballet's first major visit to the West in 1961, Nureyev's performances in Paris had been greatly admired; his nonconformist behaviour off-stage — meeting and moving freely with French friends — had excited official disapproval. As the Kirov Ballet prepared to leave for its first Covent Garden season, Nureyev was told that he would have to return to the Soviet Union to dance at a Kremlin gala. The message seemed clear to Nureyev: he would return to Russia, never to leave again. His decision was brave and immediate. He sought and was granted asylum in France, and thereby opted to leave all the security of the Soviet state ballet system behind him, and rely upon his talent.

The international fuss attendant upon this decision projected Nureyev into a limelight which was not thereafter to desert him. Never seeking publicity, Nureyev nonetheless attracted it at every turn throughout his career. He became the first male super-star in ballet since Nijinsky, his features recognised worldwide, his every least action chronicled, the larger dramas of his career chartered and discussed interminably in the press.

He found his first role in the West in an over-decorated staging of *The Sleeping Beauty* presented by the de Cuevas Ballet, in which he was at least to dance with an outstanding ballerina, Nina Vyrubova. He was also soon to meet the great Danish danseur Erik Bruhn, whose Apollonian style he admired without qualification, and who was to become a close friend. And he was to make his London début at a gala in aid of the Royal Academy of Dancing whose president was Margot Fonteyn. On this occasion, Frederick Ashton was to compose a brief, ardent solo — *Poème Tragique* to Skryabin music — which seemed to typify the fire and passion of Nureyev as he launched himself upon the Western world. A consequence of this performance was an invitation to appear as Albrecht to Fonteyn's Giselle with the Royal Ballet at Covent Garden, the initiation of a partnership which was to enrapture audiences wherever the couple danced during the next decade.

The partnership between the classically elegant Fonteyn, whose every dance quality seemed to celebrate the virtues of lyricism and dramatic sensitivity, and the flaring romanticism of Nureyev, was unlikely. Aged 24, Nureyev was 19 years Fonteyn's junior, and temperament, as well as artistic background, seemed to separate them. But as their first appearance together in *Giselle* got underway, the Covent Garden audience was to be profoundly moved by the emotional power, the intuitive responsiveness, of their interpretation. Thereafter, their joint appearances generated a massive public response in everything they performed in every theatre.

From this performance onwards Nureyev was to have a profound influence upon British ballet — as he was, indeed, to have with many other companies worldwide. His reassertion of the importance of the male dancer; the bravura and intensity of his dancing and his interpretations — far less conventional than had been known previously in British ballet — all led to a sense of controversy as well as stellar glamour about his appearances. There also became current at this time reports of bad temper, bad manners, intolerance of inadequacy from associates. Certainly Nureyev's hair-trigger temperament led to explosions of anger when, as a highly concentrated and highly conscientious worker, he found that other people did not respond to his own sense of urgency in getting work as perfect as was humanly possible. Arrogant he might also seem, but it was an arrogance based upon his own awareness of his value, of his achievement and of his dedication to an art he served with extreme intelligence as well as passion.

The career in the West, thus launched in the 1960s, was to seem insatiable for new experience, new roles, new challenges. For a decade the partnership with Fonteyn — immortalised in the portraits of each performer drawn by Frederick Ashton in *Marguerite and Armand* — held every audience enthralled, and gave the Royal Ballet exceptional cachet. Nureyev also began producing and staging for the company — notably the Kingdom of Shades scene from *La Bayadère* — and set about reviving and revising works from his Russian inheritance for ballet companies throughout the world. His versions of *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Raymonda*, *The Nutcracker*, *Don Quixote*, *Swan Lake* were to enter the repertories of many troupes, with Nureyev's presence as director and star a galvanic influence upon the company, and the box-office.

Films of these stagings ensued, and inevitably were followed by others featuring Nureyev (*I am a Dancer*, *Valentino* among them) which further helped promote his image. There seemed no company with whom Nureyev was not prepared to appear if new repertory, new incentives to his artistry, were available. He was the ultimate "bankable" name for impresarios.

Seasons took place in London, New York, and on international tours, in which ballet companies were engaged as backing for his stellar figure, the posters announcing that "Rudolf Nureyev will dance at every performance". And not just once during the evening: he thought it right that his public should see him in three contrasted roles during a programme of short ballets. A prodigious routine of performance, a tireless immolation of himself in front of a public every night, seemed the ideal for which Nureyev strove year after year. He could and did accept every challenge even, as the years progressed, the challenge of his own younger self.

Where once the jumps had seemed tigerish, broadly soaring, the inevitable depredations of the years brought a sad diminution of physical powers. Nevertheless, Nureyev still strode the stage as ballet's youthful princes and heroes, still excited his public to ardent applause, still offered what was becoming almost a caricature of his old manner.

He choreographed ballets, without lasting success, sought further new roles and fresh areas to conquer — he appeared with modern dance troupes, dancing with Martha Graham's company, with Paul Taylor — and in 1983 was appointed as director of the Ballet at the Paris Opera.

With the departure of Serge Lifar in 1958 as director of the Opera Ballet, which he had dominated and revivified during nearly 30 years, France's national troupe had seemed ungovernable. A series of directors had been little more than caretakers of a technically superb but unfocused organisation. Nureyev, possessed of an identity as commanding and demanding of respect as Lifar's, took charge and revitalised the company, providing a fascinating repertory made up of his own stagings and imaginative acquisitions and commissions.

He dominated the Byzantine organisation of the Palais Garnier, promoting young dancers, restoring to the ensemble a sense of international significance that it had long lacked, and dividing critical opinion, as always throughout his career.

For six years, sharing his time between the demands of the Opera and his own urgent need to continue performing worldwide, Nureyev brought back to the company a lustre it had not known for many years. But changes in the organisation of the Paris lyric theatres — the creation of the Bastille opera house — and the decisions of Pierre Berge as *supremo* for both opera houses, brought a conflict of ideals. Nureyev did not renew his contract, and what had been one of the most stimulating periods for the Paris Opera Ballet came to an end.

Nureyev, meanwhile, had found a new theatrical vehicle in an extended North American tour of the musical *The King and I*, in which he played the role of the King of Siam. He also made his return to Russia in 1989 as a dancer (he had two years previously been allowed a brief visit to see his grievously ill mother). Arriving back in Leningrad in November 1989, he was to dance the role of James in *Les Sylphides* at the Kirov, his home theatre, for two performances (characteristically, he insisted upon dancing even though he was suffering from an injury). And among the audience was the centenarian Anna Udeltsova, who had been his first teacher 40 years before. On his return to Europe, Nureyev once again embarked upon a series of tours, as punishing in their demands as any he had undertaken as a younger man. The saddening fact for

> 'He stood supported by the principal dancers'

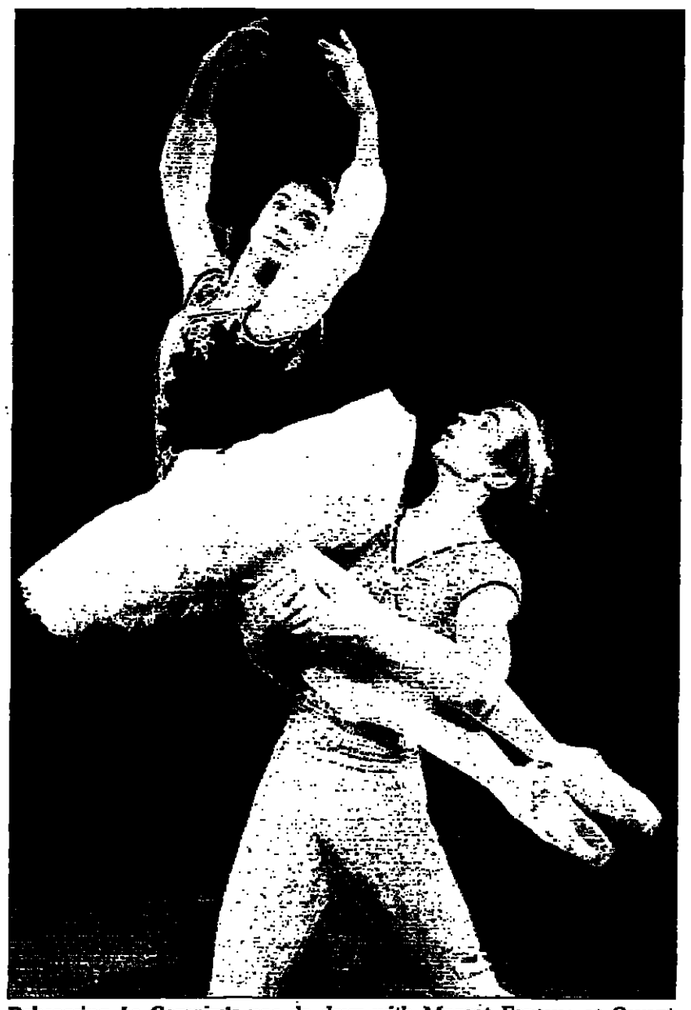
his long-time admirers was that Nureyev's indomitable will to perform was now being eroded by his declining physical powers, and by illness. But nothing — neither the limitations of his health, nor adverse comment — could deflect him from his mission to dance. The circumstances of his last tour in Britain, when he chose two roles that suited his powers — the insane teacher in Flemming Flindt's *The Lesson* and Othello in Jose Limon's *The Moor's Pavane* — were less than happy as he drove himself through performances under conditions that were far from flattering or worthy of his name.

It was at this time that Nureyev made a move as bold as any in his career, by deciding to train as an orchestral conductor. With the intelligence and intense application that marked all his work, he set about mastering conducting technique in Vienna, and within months he had made his début directing the Vienna Residenz Orchestra in works by Haydn, Mozart, Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky.

Further conducting engagements, and a last sad tour of Australia as a dancer, were constrained by ill health, but in April 1992 he was in New York to conduct *Romeo and Juliet* for American Ballet Theatre. His final contact with the ballet was to come in October, when he realised a long held ambition to stage *La Bayadère* at the Paris Opera. His ill health was now causing great concern but he made a last appearance upon the stage, on which he had first set foot during the visit of the Kirov Ballet to Paris in 1960. He looked exhausted, and stood supported by the principal dancers to whom he had made this last and splendid gift. The audience rose, cheering, and Nureyev seemed to take strength from their adulation — as he had done throughout his professional life. It was a heartbreaking farewell.

Writing about Nureyev in the 1970s, the critic "Alexander Bland" (the husband and wife team of Nigel Gosling and Maude Lloyd) assessed his character as "burning with curiosity, energy and adventure, in which an almost academic professionalism (he is a much valued coach) is always imbued with passion. He has been self-propelled and self-sufficient all his life, a lone-ranger of the dance. A constellation rather than a star, he has excelled in many fields. To each he brings the whole of himself, and it is that self which has made him a legend." This view was acutely true at that time, and remained so throughout Nureyev's career.

Nureyev dominated the consciousness of the ballet world from the moment he leapt to freedom in Paris. His devotion to the art of ballet was total, and used his every gift. Few performers have so bravely spoken of dedication to their art in every aspect of their lives. To stellar presence, Nureyev added a brilliant intelligence. He understood the art he served, and why he served it, and his performances touched and excited his public because they responded to his own passion for dancing.



Rehearsing *Le Corsaire*'s pas de deux with Margot Fonteyn at Covent Garden in 1962

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Feedback Data Limited, the leading supplier of data collection and time management terminals, seeks a resourceful Sales & Marketing Director to oversee the next stage of developing its business in the U.K. and mainland Europe. The successful candidate will have a solid background in the information technology industry and be able to demonstrate a successful track record in sales management. Experience of selling to OEM's and distributors, the ability to motivate and control a sales team in their achievement of demanding objectives, together with strong key account handling skills, are essential requirements of this exacting position.

Currently working at board level, or occupying a similar senior management position, the new director will take responsibility for all of the company's sales and marketing activities. Applicants must have strong inter personal skills and be able to communicate confidently at all levels. This appointment will also require a firm understanding of product marketing and positioning and the ability to develop and implement strategic plans for growth.

Whilst knowledge of the data collection market would be an advantage, we are looking for an individual with the potential to make the most of the career opportunities that will reward success in this key position. Please send full career details, including current remuneration level, for the attention of the Managing Director.

Feedback

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Director Senior Manager

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ENSURING EFFECTIVE SALES STRATEGIES IN AN AREA MANAGEMENT ROLE

London and Peterborough
£30,000 - £35,000
+ bonus + car
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With an increase in pre-tax profits and a reduction in operating costs, the Leeds Permanent Building Society is a clear leader in terms of efficiency and productivity, and continues to climb building society performance league tables.

As one of the foremost building societies in the UK, the Leeds has a solid product base of housing and investment financial services, with insurance now becoming an increasingly profitable growth area. We are now seeking two high-calibre Area Managers to develop and implement insurance sales strategies in the London and Eastern England areas.

Reporting to the Head of Field Operations, you will ensure the achievement of agreed insurance sales targets through your area branch network. With responsibility for a growing team of Investment Advisers and Supervisors, you will maximise business opportunities by the effective management and motivation of your team. Your success in this role will therefore have a direct impact on the overall profitability of your region.

Of graduate calibre, you must be able to demonstrate substantial results through people within the financial services sector. You should combine an in-depth knowledge of insurance products with the credibility to communicate effectively at every level. Specific knowledge of LAUTRO regulations and compliance procedures will also be instrumental to your success in this role.

As you would expect from a substantial financial services organisation, the benefits include mortgage subsidy, contributory pension, and a relocation package where appropriate.

Please send your cv, indicating how your skills match the brief and stating your preferred location, to Hilary Cunningham, PA Consulting Group, 123 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9SR. Tel: 071-730 9000. Please quote **Ref: 5757/ST** for the London position, and **Ref: 5758/ST** for Peterborough.

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DIRECTOR OF BUYING
In a new era of change, dictate the pace

£60-80,000 + benefits — *South East*

It is by no accident that this leading retailer has grown to become a household name and major player in its markets. It is all to do with a genuine commitment to quality and customer service.

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Clearly this is a senior appointment that demands a rare blend of strengths.

A frustrated No.2 or Head of Department looking for a fresh challenge, you are a purchasing professional with several years' experience at a senior level, and an enviable track record of achieving major cost savings.

Ideally with a retail background, you will be familiar with sourcing from worldwide markets for a leading edge company with a multi product line.

Willing to travel extensively, you are a tough negotiator who enjoys leading from the front and a strong team builder and motivator.

Above all, you relish the opportunity to be an agent of change and to influence the very pace of our progress.

In addition to a flexible salary, there is a substantial bonus opportunity, together with an attractive senior level benefits package.

To find out more about this outstanding opportunity, contact our advising consultant Mr M. Phillips on 081 579 4437 or write to him quoting reference no. 1323/ST, at Porter's Place, 33 St John Street, London EC1M 4AA. Fax: 071 490 3101.

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Central London — **circa £35,000 + Benefits**

Our client is a long-established partnership in the insurance sector. It has grown significantly in recent years and though it remains "medium-sized" it needs to strengthen its personnel services, training, manpower development and general administrative management capacities.

The firm intends to recruit an IPM qualified manager who has experience of combining both the full range of human resources functions with that of general office administration, from salaries to health and safety and budgetary control. Professional practice background is not compulsory but it will help.

Candidates should have an excellent training with a respected promoter of sound employment practices, a good academic record, the ability to communicate in plain English and at all levels and an in-built affinity for high working standards. Ideal age is 35 to 45.

Terms and conditions of employment are good with a salary plus director's fees in lieu of car.

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Please forward a full curriculum vitae quoting reference 438 to Terry Fuller, Director.

FINANCE MANAGER
Leicester's City Challenge

to £29,250 pa

Leicester City Challenge Ltd. are leading a dynamic three way partnership between the public, private and voluntary sectors in Leicester to deliver a five year action plan for the regeneration and development of a key area of the city.

The company is committed to Total Quality Management and is seeking accreditation to B.S. 5750 as from 1st April 1993.

There is now a vacancy for a Finance Manager who will be directly responsible to the Chief Executive and whose prime responsibility will be to ensure the maximum take up of funds from all feasible sources.

The high standards of public accountability associated with the various grant regimes involved in City Challenge require you to demonstrate outstanding ability in the establishment of appropriate financial management systems, encompassing administration and accounts.

You will also be responsible for the detailed financial monitoring of individual projects, total programmes and leverage. This is a proactive role involving visits to, and liaison with, our partners.

Communication and interpersonal skills of the highest order are essential for successfully developing close marketing links with all the funding agencies involved – if you therefore have a knowledge of local authority systems, are familiar with D.o.E. procedures and grant regimes (or perhaps have been involved in the private sector in applying for either City Grants or Derelict Land Grant), then so much the better.

You will be expected to play your part in a team which is totally committed to achieving success for the people of Leicester.

Your reward will be a good salary, a comprehensive benefits package, relocation assistance and the opportunity to derive the immense satisfaction that flows from a challenging job well done.

For further information and an application form, please contact **Keith Beaumont, Chief Executive, Leicester City Challenge Ltd., Unit 3, Gateway House, Gateway Street, Leicester LE2 7DP. Tel: (0533) 545735 or Fax: (0533) 755242.** (Closing date for receipt of applications is 21st January: interviews will probably be held in the first week of February).

Equal Opportunities: all applications are welcome regardless of racial origin, sex, age, disability, marital status, religious beliefs, class or sexual orientation.

Leicester's City Challenge

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

A & P APPLEDORE GROUP — **Newcastle**

Circa £60k + substantial bonus + options + car + other executive benefits

A & P Appledore is the leading UK Ship Repairer and Marine Consultant with yards in Tyneside, Falmouth, Southampton and Chatham. It has annual sales of £60m and payroll of over £30m. Approximately 1,000 people are employed, but this can rise to 2,000 at peak periods.

The Human Resource function is fundamental in this industry. This represents an opportunity for an outstanding individual to design, establish and implement an appropriate strategy to meet the needs of the business. The new Director will report to the Group Chief Executive and will be responsible for all areas of recruitment, training, organisation and personnel development and remuneration in all of the above locations. Candidates should be at least 35, probably a graduate and have strong financial and commercial awareness. Experience of managing a large unionised labour force is a prerequisite; preferably this would be in heavy engineering or contracting. Most of all, applicants will need to demonstrate a track record within an organisation which is well known for its forward thinking and successful personnel practices.

Please send full career details to:-
Donald McLean, Group Chief Executive,
A & P Appledore Group Limited, PO Box 14,
North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE29 6TD

Commercial Managers
Scientists
& Engineers

Central Research Laboratories Limited is a stand-alone R & D business, conducting technology consultancy for its parent THORN EMI and a large and rapidly increasing range of commercial and government customers. CRL, as we are known, has been creating, developing and exploiting patents and knowhow since 1932. We continue to invest heavily in new technologies and our success relies on our capacity to innovate, to develop concepts, and to continue to promote the resultant IPR and products actively in the global R & D marketplace.

We are looking for world class professionals who are experienced and resourceful with good business sense to expand our activities in the following areas.

·Signal Processing	·Analogue Circuit Design	·Microwave Plasmas
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·Data Compression	·Numerical Modelling	·Microengineering
·Sensors	·LCD's and Optical Processing	·Software
·Magnetics	·Power Conversion and control	·Gas and solid-state lasers

You must possess proven project management capability and sound commercial judgement, probably gained through first hand experience working for a technology consultancy. Salary and benefits will be competitive and commensurate with your previous experience.
Our laboratories are situated 12 miles west of Central London and the modern purpose-built complex provides an ideal environment for dynamic and creative achievement.

Applicants should send full career details, or telephone for an application form quoting reference: 125/93/01 to the Human Resources Executive, THORN EMI CRL, Dawley Road, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1HH. Tel: 081-848 6648. Fax: 081-848 6565.

CRL

Technical Sales Consultant

SPECIALISED CHEMICALS

KEY ACCOUNTS THROUGHOUT THE UK

c £25k + BONUS

This $3billion turnover Company is part of an international market-leader, manufacturing and marketing an extensive range of chemicals to the water treatment, papermaking, cosmetic/toiletries and paint emulsions industries. With a long-term commitment to quality and product development there is an opportunity for an outstanding sales professional.

Reporting to the National Sales Manager, you will have a high degree of autonomy, being responsible for creating new business and sustaining growth with existing clients.

A graduate in Chemistry or a related discipline, you will have a commercial background preferably gained within a chemicals environment. Exceptional interpersonal skills, drive and enthusiasm are essential in order to succeed in this progressive world-wide organisation. Ideally you will live within easy reach of a major motorway network. In return for your commitment you will receive investment in your personal development and reward for achievement.

Candidates should send a comprehensive CV or telephone for an application form to Howgate Sable & Partners, Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens, Manchester M3 2LF. Tel: 061-839 2000, Fax: 061-839 0064, quoting reference (S.T.762G).

Howgate Sable

SEARCH AND SELECTION: EXECUTIVES AND INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS

FOUNDER ISS MEMBER

EUROPEAN SERVICE MANAGER

SUSSEX — **To £35,000 + CAR**

Our client, a growing division of a major multi national analytical company, is a worldwide market leader in it's industry sector.

A reorganisation has now created a need for a professional **European Service Manager** to develop an effective and efficient service operation.

Acting as a strategist you will review and coordinate existing service procedures and introduce new systems where necessary. This will ensure the division will match expected service objectives within a European service operation.

Ideally aged 35-45, with a degree in physics or chemistry, the candidate will have a successful record of service management in a high tech environment where customer/manufacturer liaison occurs. Fluency in French or German would be useful.

This appointment requires excellent communication, motivational and commercial skills with the ability to influence and guide within a multi national environment and will involve significant travel within Europe.

The prospects for future individual career development both within the UK and the world wide organisation are excellent.

GRANGE SELECTION

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HEAD OF MANUFACTURING

North West to £35,000, car

The client is a medium sized subsidiary of a substantial British manufacturing group and it is a recognised leader in a specialised field. It manufactures and commissions on site major capital equipment plant requiring complex design skills and involving both mechanical and electronic components. There is a highly skilled, dedicated and willing workforce. They operate in niche markets on a worldwide basis and face many challenges and opportunities, not least in the manufacturing operations area. This is a high profile role in the company. Reporting to the Managing Director, the critical objective is to improve the planning, control and efficiency of production operations. Of particular importance is the achievement of delivery times, which by definition are often lengthy and the process involves considerable exposure to the customer. Candidates will need to demonstrate a proven combination of achievement, technical competence and gravitas. Ideally aged 30-50, a degree or equivalent in mechanical or electronics engineering is required together with a training in production management by a substantial blue chip group. Manufacturing experience in large complex capital projects involving a mix of mechanical, electronics and hydraulics is ideal. The role involves leadership and the management of change in the true sense of the word and success will bring significantcareer development opportunities. The benefits package is full and comprehensive. **Please forward in absolute confidence a full curriculum vitae to Adderley Featherstone plc, 6 Lisbon Square, Leeds LS1 4LY. Tel: 0532 444074. Fax: 0532 451578.**

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

Senior Recruitment Consultant

We are a successful independent company which provides retained, professional recruitment services on both a search and selection basis.

UK market leaders in the energy sector, we enjoy a solid Blue Chip client base, a healthy financial position and a low staff turnover.

We have a hands-on, team spirited approach, a high level of commitment and a particularly flexible working environment.

With diversification in mind, we are now looking for like-minded recruitment professionals to join our well established team in Central London.

You have a good track record in generating and executing retained recruitment assignments and a current, active client base. Of greater importance than your industry sector is your attention to ethics, high work standards and ability to make things happen.

We offer competitive remuneration packages which can be tailored to meet your personal circumstances. You will also benefit from working with a company which considers all its staff important.

If you feel your skills and contribution might be channelled more positively and rewardingly, please write with CV, in complete confidence, to: **John Diack, Managing Director, Simpson Crowden Consultants Limited, 97/99 Park Street, London W1Y 3HA. Telephone: 071-629 5909.**

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STAFF OFFICER – 2
(MARINE ENGINEERING PROJECTS)
RADIO SECTION OFFICER

The Royal Navy of Oman wishes to fill the above vacancies. To apply you should have served in the British Armed Forces attaining the rank of Lt Commander for SO2 (Marine Engineering Projects) and Lieutenant for the Radio Section Officer's post, respectively aged 50 or under with the following qualifications and experience:

SO2 (MARINE ENGINEERING PROJECTS)
LT CDR (RNO/048)

A Marine Engineer with procurement and contract administration experience.
Duties will involve:
a) Staffing all hull and marine engineering aspects of major projects and ship modifications including the selection, procurement and commissioning of ships, systems and equipment.
b) Initiating and managing feasibility and design studies.
c) Monitoring developments in ship design and marine technology worldwide in order to assist in development of RNO's acquisition plans.
It will also involve the technical evaluation of tenders and contributing to the drafting of procurement specifications and contracts. Good communication skills will be required in order to liaise effectively with Naval and Civilian personnel of different nationalities both in Oman and internationally. Ideally you will have served as MEO's in the Royal Navy with more recent MOD (PE) experience. Applications from Marine Engineers with shipbuilding experience will also be considered.

RADIO SECTION OFFICER
LT (RNO/049)

An Engineer Officer in the 'WE' specialisation and experienced in radio, radars and all navigational aids equipment.
Duties will be to provide engineering support for all aspects of radio engineering in RNO ships and establishments and to provide advice advice in operation of all radio and radar equipment.

These are uniformed contract appointments initially for 2 years, renewable annually thereafter by mutual agreement and although designated unaccompanied, possibilities exist for extended family visits.
Terms of service include pay in Omani Rials equivalent to pounds sterling £ 21,186 per annum for Lt Commander and £17,607 for Lieutenant. There is an end of contract gratuity of 20 % of the total pay received (both pay and gratuity are TAX-FREE and fully remittable world-wide). In addition, an attractive benefits package includes 60 days annual leave with 3 return flights home, free air-conditioned accommodation, uniform, medical services, and first class recreational facilities.
To apply, please write quoting relevant reference number, to: The Recruiting Officer (L), Military Attachés Office, Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman, 64 Ennismore Gardens, London SW7 1NH.

THE ROYAL NAVY OF OMAN

NABIM

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We are seeking a self-motivated and versatile person to work across a broad spectrum of issues; this post might ideally suit a graduate looking for his/her first or second career move

The National Association of British and Irish Millers (NAMIB) is the trade association for the UK flour milling industry and is highly active in areas as diverse as agricultural policy, trade matters, food legislation, health and safety, training and public relations. Its staff are committed to promoting the industry's interests by anticipating developments at home and abroad, pursuing the industry's goals and providing a high-quality service to members.

Reflecting the importance of EC policies, proficiency in French is desirable, whilst relevant experience would also be an asset. However, most important is the ability to work alone and as part of a small team, in collaboration with the industry's senior management.

Salary will be negotiable, depending on experience, circa £17-22k; other benefits are a contributory pension scheme, lunch allowance and season ticket loan.

Please apply by sending your c.v., with indication of your present salary, to the Secretary, NABIM, 21 Arlington Street, London SW1A 1RN by 22nd January.

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A two day executive job search seminar enhances job hunting skills, and includes CV preparation.

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If interested please contact:

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TRADE MARKS ADMINISTRATION

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This appointment is a demanding and challenging opportunity to make a significant contribution to an ambitious, hard-working group within a dynamic environment.

If interested, please send, no later than 15 January, a curriculum vitae with a hand written letter, stating contact telephone number, to Keith Wood, Head of Personnel and Administration, S J Berwin & Co, 222 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8HB. All applications will be treated in strictest confidence.

Faulding is regarded as a world leader in drug delivery technology and product formulation. The company is committed to excellence in providing health care products at a superior level of quality and service to an ever increasing number of international and Australian customers.

Faulding have a pre-eminent position in the health care industry and are developing unique technologies and successfully commercialising them in the major international pharmaceutical market.

As a Development Scientist in Drug Product Discovery you will play a key role in the company's ongoing scientific Research and Development programs.

You will be primarily responsible for all aspects of R & D and required to take assigned projects from concept to scale up. This will include preformulation, formulation and development activities culminating in the submission of products for trialling in-vivo. Process development activities will also be undertaken.

You will preferably be from a pharmaceutical background, however food or product formulation could be equally appropriate. PhD qualifications are highly desirable and preferably those qualifications will have been gained in polymer science. You must be an academically talented scientist with a successful track record in R & D. You must be able to work effectively in a team environment with a pragmatic and commercial focus that can be relied upon to produce results.

Faulding has a significant R & D expenditure and the prime location of their R & D facility in the same city as their international head quarters, is conducive to significant R & D efficiency and satisfaction.

As one of Australia's top 200 companies, Faulding is a respected and responsible employer, providing worthwhile job satisfaction, training, advancement and effective remuneration.

For further information about this exciting opportunity, please telephone Tony Hancock in Australia on 61-8-223 2588, or fax resume to 61-8-223 2565, or contact our London Office 44-71-2401040, or Fax your resume to 44-71-240-1052, or Washington Office 1-703-3515600 or fax your resume to 1-703-3515635, quoting reference no 68393.

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Secretary/ Assistant

McGraw-Hill

DRI/McGraw-Hill requires a Secretary/Assistant to provide support to its Automotive Consultancy Group. An important part of this position is producing proposals, reports and presentations on a PC. Word processing and graphic skills are essential as high standards are required for charts and tables (Word for Windows, Excel, Powerpoint). The position also requires secretarial skills, some market research and assistance with the promotion and marketing of our consultancy services.
The ideal candidate will be flexible and enthusiastic with a good telephone manner, organisational skills and the ability to use initiative. A European language in addition to English is also required. Apply in writing to:
Personnel Manager, DRI/McGraw-Hill, Winkfield Bridge House, 1 Hartfield Road, LONDON, SW19 3RU.

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NATIONAL ACCOUNTS MANAGERS

Our Client
Innovative national company recruiting throughout UK

Candidate Profile
Entrepreneurial experience selling business to business in competitive environment at national account level, aged 30+

Ideally Experience will include.
Management of sales teams selling into commercial markets (must have managed salespeople.)

Remuneration Attractive neg package guide £35K OTE

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS

Our Client
South East based company recruiting throughout the UK, selling innovative new product with wide applications.

Candidate Profile.
30-50 years, previous earnings £20k entrepreneurial experience.

Ideally Experience will include.
Recruitment Training and Management of direct sales teams selling into domestic markets. (Must have managed sales that 10+ salespeople) Business to Business sales experience in competitive environment.

Remuneration: £50K OTE

If your profile matches these requirements (OR IF YOU FEEL YOU MERIT CONSIDERATION FOR EITHER VACANCY) send your CV to Career Exchange, 115 South Street, ROMFORD, Essex RM1 1NX EMP AGENCY

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Are you one of the unlucky few who have recently been made redundant or likely to be? Or are you an ambitious Graduate?

Do you wish to pursue a rewarding, secure career in sales and management with a London based firm?

If you have sales and/or management experience, telephone personnel on:

071 495 4477
Quoting ref: DPEQ

Or send C.V. to: 2nd Floor, 50 New Bond Street, London, W1.

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Salaries will be in the range of £10,973 - £14,689 dependent on age and experience for a 42 hour week.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from Denise Peck, Personnel Section, Royal Greenwich Observatory, Madingley Road, Cambridge. CB3 0EZ. Tel (0223) 384874.

Closing date for applications is 29th January 1993.

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Details from: Application Department

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Penyard Lane (D2)
Ross-on-Wye,
Herefordshire. HR9 5NR.
Tel: (0989) 767833

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Interested? Then contact Sue Pearson, Employment Services Section, for an application form and information pack on (0325) 380100 ext 3341. For an informal discussion contact Tony Jameson, District General Manager on (0325) 380100 ext 3753.

Applications by CV or application form including the names and addresses of two referees should be returned to Mr Jameson at Darlington Memorial Hospital, Hollyhurst Road, Darlington, Co. Durham DL3 6HX. Closing date 20th January 1993. Interviews will be held on 27th and 28th January 1993.

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COMMUNITY CREME

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The Royal College of Midwives

COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

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Application forms and job description from Caroline Payton, Administrative Officer, The Royal College of Midwives, 15 Mansfield Street, London W1M 0BE. Tel: 071 580 6523. Closing date for completed applications: 18th January 1993.

The RCM is working towards becoming an equal opportunities organisation.

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WEST END Gallery requires bright, responsible, recep/typist. Tel: 10-6 pm. 071 262 4906

NEWS

Row erupts over tanker disaster

■ Millions of gallons of oil from the stricken Braer tanker spread seven miles along the Shetland coastline and the first wildlife victims were being found. A major row erupted over who was to blame for the disaster.

A government minister said the tanker should not have been in the narrow straits and a tug owner said the crew should have stayed on board. But the Greek master blamed delays on tugs reaching his vessel..... **Pages 1, 2, 3**

Rudolf Nureyev dies in Paris, aged 54

■ Rudolf Nureyev, the most celebrated dancer of the post-war generation, died in Paris at the age of 54. His doctor said the cause was "cardiac complication". Friends of Nureyev, who defected from the Leningrad Kirov ballet in 1961, said that he was suffering from Aids..... **Pages 1, 5**

Home loan help

First-time buyers will be offered cash help to become home owners under proposals to be studied by John Major at a Chequers meeting. The buyers would be offered either grants or loans as deposits. Council tenants are already offered cash inducements to buy homes..... **Pages 1, 6**

Literary dispute

Work by 26 authors, from Chaucer to Laurie Lee, will form the basis for controversial examinations for 14-year-olds to be held this summer. But teachers are threatening to boycott the tests..... **Page 7**

Agents cash in

Estate agents have cashed in on the £750 million plan to reactivate the housing market by selling repossessed property to housing associations. The extra money has had virtually no effect on depressed prices, according to housing analysts..... **Page 7**

Serb challenge

Following the Geneva peace conference Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, has the unenviable task of telling his people that the minimum demand of the international community is the dismantling of the Bosnian-Serb republic that his people have been killing — and dying — for..... **Page 8**

Defence weapons

Laser guns that can destroy a tank's optical equipment, acoustic bullets with an impact similar to being hit by a baseball, high-power microwave projectiles that disrupt military communications are so-called non-lethal weapons now being researched in the United States and Britain..... **Page 8**

France snubs China

France is expecting fresh retaliation from China after notifying Peking that it will sell 60 Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft to Taiwan. China has alreay denounced the action as a betrayal of relations between the countries..... **Page 9**

Somali deal

Somalia's warring factions have agreed in principle to hold a "national reconciliation conference". The deal, brokered at talks organised by the United Nations in Addis Ababa, showed all the hallmarks of a compromise designed to impress foreigners..... **Page 10**

Refugee pressure

Pressure is building on Bill Clinton to define his policy towards Haiti. Hundreds more refugees from the Caribbean state have arrived in Miami as 159 others began a seventh day on hunger strike..... **Page 11**

German santuary

The number of people seeking asylum in Germany last year reached a record 438,191, an increase of 71 per cent over 1991, according to the interior ministry. Two thirds came from eastern Europe and the former Yugoslavia..... **Page 9**

Guernsey Nazi victim refused to go

■ One of three Jewish residents of Guernsey who died in Auschwitz after the Germans deported her had refused an offer of evacuation to the mainland shortly before the invaders arrived, it was disclosed. Meanwhile the Guernsey government reacted strongly to disclosures of co-operation between the civilian authorities and the Germans..... **Page 7**



TED BATH

Pre-history man: Peter Faulkner, a coracle maker at Leintwardine, Hereford and Worcester, paddles one of his creations on the River Terne. He has taken a stand at this year's Earl's Court Boat Show to display his ancient craft. **Pages 23, 40**

Air wars: Owners Abroad, the second biggest charter holiday operator, is to fight a hostile £226 million offer from Airtours, the third biggest..... **Page 23**
Tempus, page 24

Bundesbank meets: Hopes of a German interest rate cut after the Bundesbank meeting today remain slim. Sterling — outside the ERM — remained strong, closing more than a pfennig higher at DM2.5200..... **Page 23**

Shares slip: The stock market closed down 7.6 points at 2826.00..... **Page 26**

Rugby union: The first British Lion tour of New Zealand for ten years and the first visit of South Africa to Australia for 22 years are the highlights of a hectic and intriguing year. These, and other domestic and international fixtures, are covered in a comprehensive calendar of the game for 1993 **Page 38**

Cricket: A draw in the final match at Cape Town ensured a 1-0 victory for South Africa in their first Test series since 1970. The third Test between Australia and West Indies in Sydney was also drawn. West Indies scored 606 in their first innings but remain one down with two matches to play..... **Page 39**

Yachting: Vivien Cherry, the only woman skipper in the British Steel Challenge round the world yacht race, guided Coopers & Lybrand to fourth place on the second leg to Hobart..... **Page 40**

With hindsight: "Like most of his advisers, Churchill held out no great hopes that the Russians would keep the Germans occupied for very long, but every day counted. In his haste to secure short-term advantages, Churchill neglected to ask himself what political implications his rhetorical offers of help to the Soviets might carry." In the second extract from his book, John Charmley on Churchill's over-reliance on allies..... **Page 13**

Revising Churchill: John Grigg reviews John Charmley's book and takes issue with those who argue that peace would have been preferable to the policy of surrender
Books, page 37

Just deserts: Benedict Nightingale reviews a play which tells the story of (his great-uncle) Lord Carnarvon's collaboration with Howard Carter in the excavation of the tomb of Tutankhamun..... **Page 34**

Vicious dogs: Violent, claustrophobic and foul-mouthed, *Reservoir Dogs* is nevertheless an exciting piece of pure cinema, easily the best of the new films on release, according to Geoff Brown..... **Page 35**

No bids, please: While the auctioneers' hammers are silent, Sotheby's and Christie's play host to two remarkable loan exhibitions, of mosaics from Jordan and old masters from the threatened Dulwich Picture Gallery..... **Page 35**

No laughing matter: Dr Anthony Clare and Spike Milligan have analysed the causes of and cures for depression..... **Page 12**

Up, up and away: A weekly travel section is launched. Today: old hands rediscover Kenya; the rise of Beirut; and the battle for Owners Abroad..... **Pages 31-33**

Gulf war memories: Sir Charles Powell, former private secretary to Mrs Thatcher and John Major, praises a new history of the Gulf conflict..... **Page 36**



Douglas Hurd repeated Britain's claim to the Falklands when he arrived in Argentina for the first visit by a Cabinet minister since the 1982 war **Page 11**



Masako Owada, 29, a Harvard graduate and the daughter of a foreign ministry vice-minister is to marry Crown Prince Naruhito of Japan **Page 10**



President Saddam Hussein's defence minister said that the Iraqi army is ready to "liberate" areas of the country outside Baghdad's control **Page 10**



John MacGregor, the transport secretary, promised that future road building programmes would be more sensitive to the environment **Page 6**

TV

Minder has been running for 14 years and shows no sign of flagging. *I'll Never Forget Whatsename* (ITV, 8.30 pm)..... **Page 43**

Oil sense

The hardest thing in an emergency is to think before acting, but it is the surest way to prevent an emergency from turning into the ecological disaster that the Shetlands have a reasonable chance of being spared..... **Page 15**

Still hard Labour

The voters of Basildon may be unmoved by Mr Major, but they have no love for Mr Smith. Until that changes, the Clintonites of the new Labour party will be no more better at winning elections than the old prophets of Clause Four... **Page 15**

Free spirit

Audiences will recall the Nureyev of the 1960s, in whom physical perfection and astonishing technical gifts were inextricably fused with a voracious appetite for portraying the great passions of existence: love, death, joy and grief..... **Page 15**

BEN MACINTYRE

The death of Westley Allan Dodd [an American convicted paedophile and triple child-murderer] will not stop people of his type from killing, but it does mean more people will die; he would probably have enjoyed that fact..... **Page 14**

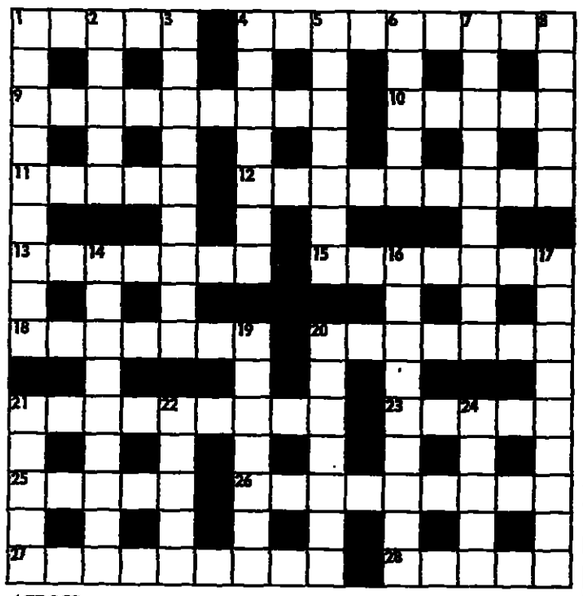
BERNARD LEVIN

All in all Wilhelm Furtwängler was as great a conductor as he was a lamentable human being. But being a lamentable human being is not the charge levelled against him. And this is where I speak for the defence..... **Page 14**

Lord Armstrong of Ilminster and Sir Frank Cooper defend the impartiality of civil servants.. **Page 15**

Countries like Liberia, where the Braer was registered, do not win this business because of their maritime traditions but because of their regulatory laxity. It is a gaping loophole which most seamen have long wanted closed and yesterday's events lend force to their case. Nor, it must be said, does the now-familiar floating Babel that was the Braer's crew inspire confidence. The Filipinos, who crew so much of the world's fleet, are hired for their cheapness, not their qualifications
— The Scotsman

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,121



ACROSS

1 I waded into crooked card sharp (5).
4 Atlas perhaps showing island on sound (9).
9 Taking care to hold King when making bid (9).
10 An unending feast once befitting a king (5).
11 They can shoot up a soldier after a diversion (5).
12 Matilda, an amazing dog (9).
13 Tea left to cool in cup (7).
15 Old Member admitted to enclosure for merrymaking (7).
18 Income from flat in Parisian thoroughfare (7).
20 Champion has youngster in distress (7).
21 Sole punishment for a bandit so depraved (9).
23 Accepted retired arbitrator to formulate conclusions (5).
25 Take steps to apportion blame (5).
26 Assemble before dinner say, but not all at once (9).
27 Uninvited celebrity cited by Malvolio (9).
28 Access permitted by guard losing head (5).

DOWN

1 Contrivance run by craftsman (9).
2 Arrest number in crash (3,2).
3 Kind of red stamp used first by food authority (9).
4 Rook takes turn over lake in Kent (7).
5 Uniform for a soldier (7).
6 A standard-bearing girl? (5).
7 Periodical with new poem that's acclaimed at last has increased in size (9).
8 Material only manufactured under direction (5).
14 Recommended as competent to hold key permit (9).
16 Crawler responsible for piled wreckage in race (9).
17 Characteristic settler with right companion as a rule (9).
19 Case produces generous support for former partner (7).
20 Quiet admirers of flighty types (7).
21 Report about hard drug (5).
22 A Berliner torn at heart still (5).
24 Nimble sailors (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,120

A	N	T	I	S	O	C	I	A	L		I	S	I	S
G		E		T		L		P				W		U
U	N	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N		B	E	R	G
E		L		A		M		R		H		E		A
		G	L	O	B	E	T	R	O	T	T	E	R	
S		A		T			M		R		H		D	
P	O	S	T	H	A	S	T	E		S	H	E	B	A
O		S		E		T		N		E		A		D
I	T	E	M	S		U	N	T	U	T	O	R	E	D
L		V		H		T			R		T		Y	
S	T	E	P	O	N	T	H	E	G	A	S			
P		R		W		E		L		D		U		G
O	K	A	Y		I	R	R	A	T	I	O	N	A	L
R		T			E		N		N		D		A	
T	W	E	E		B	R	I	D	E	G	R	O	O	M

Concise Crossword, page 44

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin,N Fife,Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have persistent rain before clearer showery weather spreads south. The showers will be heavy and wintry over northern Scotland. Northern England and Wales will be cloudy with rain at times, but clearer weather will reach these areas by the evening. Southern England will be mainly dry and bright. Patchy rain will reach the South-East after dark. It will be windy in the north. Outlook: staying unsettled

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.6	0.19	7	45	shower
Anglesey	-	0.10	10	50	dull
Aviemore	0.3	0.76	6	43	sleet
Belfast	-	0.11	7	45	shower
Birmingham	-	0.07	11	52	rain
Bognor Regis	-	0.09	10	50	rain
Bournemouth	-	0.24	11	52	rain
Bristol	-	0.33	12	54	rain
Buxton	-	0.03	8	46	rain
Cardiff	-	0.34	11	52	rain
Clacton	-	0.01	7	45	drizzle
Cromer	-	0.02	10	50	drizzle
Douglas	-	0.09	8	46	cloudy
Edinburgh	-	0.11	9	48	shower
Eskdalemuir	-	0.53	6	43	rain
Exmouth	-	0.08	12	54	drizzle
Falmouth	-	0.42	12	54	rain
Folkestone	-	0.03	9	48	rain
Glasgow	0.1	0.23	10	50	shower
Guernsey	-	0.02	13	55	cloudy
Hastings	-	0.08	9	48	drizzle
Hunstanton	-	0.07	10	50	rain
Jersey	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Kinloss	-	0.06	9	48	shower
Leeds	0.1	0.07	10	50	cloudy
Lerwick	-	0.24	7	45	shower
Littlehampton	-	0.06	10	50	rain
Liverpool	0.1	0.04	9	48	cloudy
London	-	0.08	11	52	rain
Lowestoft	-	0.02	9	48	rain
Manchester	-	0.05	10	50	cloudy
Margate	X	0.04	9	48	rain
Minehead	-	0.16	13	55	drizzle
Morecambe	-	0.12	8	46	cloudy
Newcastle	0.1	0.01	10	50	bright
Newquay	-	0.37	12	54	rain
Nottingham	-	0.08	10	50	cloudy
Penzance	-	0.41	13	55	rain
Plymouth	-	0.28	11	52	rain
Poole	-	0.16	13	55	drizzle
Prestwick	-	0.06	9	48	shower
Saunton Sand	-	0.44	11	52	rain
Scarborough	-	0.03	9	48	dull
Scilly Isles	-	0.24	12	54	rain
Shanklin	-	0.16	10	50	rain
Southsea	-	0.06	10	50	rain
Stornoway	-	0.61	9	48	hail
Swanage	-	0.20	11	52	rain
Teignmouth	-	0.17	13	55	rain
Tiree	0.3	0.53	9	48	hail
Torquay	-	0.35	12	54	rain
Weymouth	-	0.14	11	52	drizzle
Wick	0.3	0.10	7	45	hail
Worthing	-	0.17	9	48	rain

* denotes Not Available

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	13	55	s	Madrid	8	46	s
Akrotiri	12	54	f	Majorca	12	54	s
Alex'dria	16	61	c	Malaga	14	57	s
Algiers	10	50	c	Malta	10	50	r
Amst'dm	9	48	c	Malt'ma	16	61	c
Athens	3	37	sl	Mexico C*	19	64	s
Bahrain	21	70	c	Miami*	23	73	s
Bangkok	30	86	f	Milan	4	39	s
Barbados*	25	77	r	Montreal*	-2	28	sn
Barcelna	11	52	s	Moscow	-9	16	f
Beirut	16	61	s	Munich	3	37	c
Belgrade	-7	19	s	Naples	9	48	s
Berlin	4	39	r	N Delhi	16	61	f
Bermuda*	21	70	f	N York*	17	63	f
Biarritz	14	57	s	Nice	13	55	s
Bord'x	13	55	f	Oslo	6	43	s
Brussels	9	48	d	Paris	8	46	c
Budapst	-3	27	s	Peking	0	32	s
B Aires*	32	90	f	Perth	33	91	s
Cairo	18	64	s	Prague	1	34	r
Cape Tn	28	79	s	Reykjavik	2	36	f
Chicago*	-1	30	c	Rhodes	9	48	f
Ch'church	19	66	s	Rio de J	32	90	s
Cologne	7	45	d	Riyadh	21	70	s
Cphagn	3	37	c	Rome	11	52	s
Corfu	11	52	s	Salzburg	3	37	s
Dublin	5	41	f	S'Frisco*	6	43	f
Dubrovnik	13	55	s	Santiago*	29	84	s
Faro	14	57	s	Seoul	1	34	sn
Florence	10	50	s	Sing'por	29	84	f
Frankfurt	5	41	c	Strkhlm	6	41	f
Funchal	19	66	s	Strasb'rg	7	45	c
Geneva	4	39	f	Sydney	22	72	c
Gibraltar	14	57	c	Tangier	16	61	s
Helsinki	3	37	c	Tel Aviv	18	64	s
Innsbruck	-1	30	s	Tenerife	20	68	f
Istanbul	2	36	sn	Tokyo	9	48	f
Jeddah	29	90	s	Toronto*	0	32	c
Jo'burg*	27	81	f	Tunis	15	59	f
L Palmas	18	64	s	Valencia	11	52	s
Le Tquet	10	50	d	Vanc'ver*	-8	18	s
Lisbon	10	50	s	Venice	7	45	s
Locarno	4	39	f	Vienna	-3	27	f
London	12	54	c	Warsaw	0	32	r
L Angels*	12	54	f	Wash'ton*	18	64	s
Luxembg	4	39	d	Wel'ton	19	66	f
Lisbn	25	77	s	Zurich	6	43	f

* denotes figures are latest available





London 4.10 pm to 8.04 am
Bristol 4.20 pm to 8.14 am
Edinburgh 3.58 pm to 8.41 am
Manchester 4.06 pm to 8.23 am
Penzance 4.37 pm to 8.20 am

Sun rises: 8.05 am — Sun sets: 4.10 pm
Moon sets: 7.00 am — Moon rises: 3.14 pm
Full moon tomorrow

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	3	37	f	Guernsey	11	52	fg
B'mgham	10	50	f	Inverness	5	41	s
Blackpool	6	41	f	Jersey	11	52	c
Bristol	11	52	d	London	12	54	c
Cardiff	10	50	r	M'chester	6	43	d
Edinburgh	5	41	f	Newcastle	5	41	f
Glasgow	6	43	f	P'mbdway	7	45	s

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	12.21	6.5	12.45	6.6
Aberdeen			12.17	4.1
Avonmouth	5.51	12.2	6.24	12.5
Belfast	9.58	3.4	10.19	3.2
Cardiff	5.39	11.4	6.09	11.6
Devonport	4.39	5.1	5.07	5.1
Dover	9.41	6.1	10.13	6.3
Falmouth	4.09	4.9	4.37	4.9
Glasgow	11.54	4.7		
Harwich	10.40	3.7	11.6	3.8
Holyhead	9.14	5.3	9.35	5.3
Hull	5.06	6.8	5.29	6.9
Ilfracombe	4.42	8.5	5.11	8.7
King's Lynn	5.14	5.9	5.34	6.2
Leith	1.09	5.0	1.31	5.2

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	10.03	8.8	10.27	9.0
Lowestoft	8.09	2.2	8.36	2.4
Margate	10.54	4.4	11.22	4.6
Milford Haven	4.59	8.4	5.26	8.5
Newquay	3.52	8.5	4.19	8.6
Oban	4.39	3.7	5.13	3.8
Penzance	3.39	5.2	4.06	5.2
Portland	5.28	1.9	6.01	1.8
Portsmouth	10.07	4.6	10.40	4.6
Shoreham	9.55	5.9	10.27	6.0
Southampton	9.48	4.3	10.20	4.3
Swansea	5.08	8.7	5.33	8.6
Tees	2.26	4.9	2.50	5.1
Wilton-on-Nze	10.35	3.9	10.39	4.0

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 7C (45F); min 6pm to 6am, 5C (41F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.06in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 7C (45F); min 6pm to 6am, 3C (37F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.13in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 4.2hr.



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Bank Buys / Bank Sells

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.302	2.192
Austria Sch	18.65	17.25
Belgium Fr	54.90	50.50
Canada $	2.065	1.925
Denmark Kr	10.33	9.53
Finland Mrk	9.00	8.20
France Fr	9.06	8.35
Germany Dm	2.66	2.48
Greece Dr	355.00	330.00
Hong Kong $	12.55	11.55
Ireland Pt	1.01	0.93
Italy Lira	2455.00	2290.00
Japan Yen	210.25	191.25
Netherlands Gld	2.99	2.76
Norway Kr	11.34	10.54
Portugal Esc	237.00	219.00
South Africa Rd	5.20	4.80
Spain Pta	185.00	172.00
Sweden Kr	11.78	10.88
Switzerland Fr	2.415	2.235
Turkey Lira	14200.0	13200.0
USA $	1.636	1.508

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. NB Rates are subject to change.

Louisa Hannah, a sister for [illegible] those aimed at pruning

National Westminster Bank

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



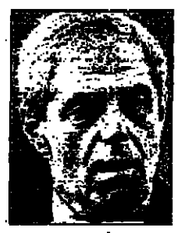
BUSINESS 23-30

De Beers loses sparkle as sales plunge



BOOKS 36-37

Sir Charles Powell and memories of Desert Storm



SPORT 38-44

The man behind Britain's biggest football club

NEW TRAVEL SECTION Pages 31-33

THE TIMES 2

THURSDAY JANUARY 7 1993

Airtours launches bid for rival

UK's No.2 tour operator rejects hostile offer

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

OPEN warfare broke out in the recession-battered holiday industry yesterday with a hostile £226 million bid from Airtours, the third biggest player, for Owners Abroad, the second biggest.

Eventual success would create the biggest quoted British package tour operator, behind only Thomson Holidays, owned by Canadian-based International Thomson.

The offer was rejected by Howard Klein, Owners chairman, as "unsolicited and unwelcome." Although a bid had been widely forecast, his company's shares shot ahead of the offer terms, up 11p to 120p. The two were soon at loggerheads over the events that prompted the offer.

Airtours said the bid would be withdrawn if an Owners shareholders' meeting on Friday to consider an already announced link with Thomas Cook and LTU Group, a holiday operator that is one of Cook's two German parents, voted in favour of that deal. Owners promptly said it would adjourn the meeting to give shareholders time to consider the situation in the light of the Airtours bid.

The Cook deal has attracted criticism as being a "poison pill", making Owners more difficult to take over, and several big institutional shareholders have indicated that they are unhappy with the terms as too favourable to the Germans, who would have emerged with a 10 per cent stake.

Mr Klein rejected such criticism, saying his board was unanimous that the deal was of "substantial benefit" to the company. He added: "I was talking to Thomas Cook before any of these discussions with Airtours. There was no question of this being defensive."

In October, two months before the Cook deal was announced, Mr Klein said his company had received a tentative approach from an unnamed party about a possible offer, and he confirmed yesterday that the approach had come from Airtours.

David Crossland, chairman of Airtours, said two Owners directors had come to him last year about a possible link. The companies had talked over the summer but he had insisted on some indication of future profits before reaching a firm conclusion on how much Owners was worth.

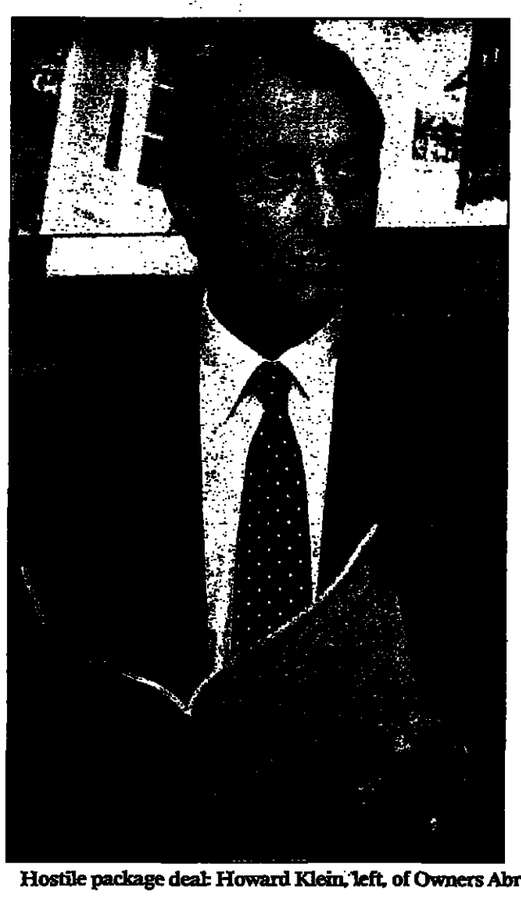
Mr Crossland claimed the Cook deal was "probably a defensive move" aimed at forestalling a hostile bid, and said the Germans had approached Airtours with the same deal in August and had been rejected. Mr Klein accepted that two members of his board, who between them own about 8 per cent of the company, had spoken to Mr Crossland in a social context, at a time when he was away, and that talks had progressed from there. But he denied any suggestion that they had acted behind his back. "We are entirely unanimous," he insisted.

Airtours shares dropped 19p to 302p, valuing the all-share offer, of three new shares for every eight Owners, at 113.25p. There is a partial cash alternative allowing shareholders to receive 108p a share for up to 55 per cent of their holdings and the rest in shares, worth 110.4p a share in total at last night's close. Owners shareholders would also receive the 2.52p final dividend already announced, and the company's preference shareholders would get 118.5 new preference shares for every 100 they hold.

The cash element is funded by a fully underwritten placing of shares. In addition Airtours will raise £49.5 million by issuing new convertible preference shares.

A spokesman for Thomas Cook said the commercial logic of its link with Owners still held and it would be put to shareholders in due course.

Tempus, page 24





Hostile package deal: Howard Klein, left, of Owners Abroad, rejected the bid from David Crossland, of Airtours

United to cut 4,700 jobs and 40 planes

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

UAL, parent company of United Airlines, yesterday announced one of the airline industry's most severe cost cutting plans to save $400 million. United, America's second-largest airline, will cancel some international routes, axe 4,700 jobs and ground 40 aircraft.

Cost cutting will affect United's employees in Britain but the airline declined to comment on whether the cuts would affect its operations at Heathrow, its most important European hub. Among international routes under threat is the proposed service from Washington's Dulles airport to Glasgow.

Within America, United will reduce its domestic service, cut managers' pay by 5 per cent and directors' fees by 10 per cent.

The action is expected to save $400 million. United has lost a total $497.8 million in the past 21 months and says it expects a further large loss in the fourth quarter of 1992 and will make a "massive" charge for pension costs when last year's results are announced this month.

Stephen Wolf, United's chairman and chief executive said yesterday: "The fundamental flaws in our industry are still pervasive and threaten our long-term financial health."

The airline is still in talks with Boeing to significantly reduce the deliveries of 433 aircraft over which it has orders or options.

AMR, parent of American Airlines recently laid off 1,000 managers. On Monday, the financially troubled Northwest Airline said it would cut 1,043 staff or 2.3 per cent of its workforce.

The legacy of Harry Goodman

OWNERS Abroad and Airtours owe much to Harry Goodman, the flamboyant entrepreneur behind International Leisure Group. At the time the country's second-biggest tour operator, although always behind Thomson, ILG went spectacularly bust in 1991, leaving the field open for the smaller operators to move up the ranks (Martin Waller writes).

In 1992, 11.5 million Britons opted for a package holiday. Of them, 2.1 million went through Owners and 1.7 million through Airtours. Their actual market shares of the package holiday business sold through travel agents were 15 and 14 per cent respectively, against Thomson's 33 per cent. The apparent discrepancy comes from the seats sold directly to the customer by Owners through its Tjaereborg offshoot.

Owners still lacks its own travel agency business, an omission the deal with Thomas Cook was in part designed to rectify. Airtours bought its own in September, paying NFC, the one-time National Freight Consortium, £16 million for the Pickfords chain.

The demise of ILG was a mixed blessing for the travel industry. Although it removed a huge slice of the competition, many smaller firms overstretched themselves in aiming for their share of the 1992 holiday season, and an oversupply of holidays met head-on a recession.

Airtours is stronger in the north and Scotland, Owners in the south. Airtours operates under its brand name and runs a fleet of eight planes. Owners has an array of companies pumping out brochures for travel agents, including Sovereign, Enterprise, Falcon and Olympic, and the Air 2000 airline. Airtours currently charters a third of Air 2000's 15 Boeing 757s.

BUSINESS TODAY

PROPERTY PAIN

CHESTERFIELD

Stanhope disclosed losses of £215 million as further evidence emerged of continued difficulties in the property market
Page 25

TURBULENCE

Shares in British Airways fell 20p to 288p after the company's own broker downgraded its profit forecast
Stock market, page 26

SHOP TALK

BURTON

Staff at Burton Group, the retailer, are meeting management amid talk that a further 1,500 jobs may go
Page 25

ACCOUNTANCY



Economic recovery may hamper efforts to ensure fairer financial reporting, warns Robert Bruce
Page 30

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5390 (+0.0070)
German mark
2.5166 (+0.0202)
Exchange index
81.7 (+0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKETS

FT 30 share
2194.8 (+5.7)
FT-SE 100
2826.0 (-7.6)
New York Dow Jones
3306.79 (-1.08)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
16782.88 (-59.70)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 7%
3-month interbank: 7⅛-7⅛%
3-month eligible bills: 6¹⁵/₁₆-6⅞%
US: Prime Rate: 6%
Federal Funds: 3¼%*
3-month Treasury Bills: 3.10-3.08%*
30-year bonds: 103²⁸/₃₂-103³¹/₃₂*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.5425	£: $1.5417*
£: DM2.5197	$: DM1.6345*
£: SwFr2.2922	$: SwFr1.4871*
£: FFr8.6030	$: FFr5.5695*
£: Yen192.86	$: Yen125.10*
£: Index 81.7	$: Index 68.7
ECU: £0.776864	SDR: £0.904707
£: ECU1.287226	£: SDR1.105330

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $328.85 PM $329.60
Close $329.20-329.70
£213.40-213.90
New York:
Comex $ 329.15-329.85*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan) $17.60/bbl ($17.80)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 139.7 November (1987=100)
* Denotes midday trading price

Sterling holds gains

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STERLING managed to hold on to some of the dramatic gains it made this week but, elsewhere in the currency markets, traders were in a holding pattern until today's Bundesbank council meeting.

The pound soared to a high of $1.5650 before investors and traders took profits. It settled back to around $1.5410 at the close, little changed from late Tuesday. But sterling did rise further against the mark, ending at DM2.5200 in late trading, more than a pfennig higher.

The mark continued to make heavy weather of it despite the fact that hopes of a German interest rate cut after today's Bundesbank meeting seem slim. The bank will not hold a press conference after the meeting. In addition, Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank president, reiterated how important a priority inflation remains. He also restated the importance of the exchange-rate mechanism.

There was speculation in the markets that the central bank may accede to a small, token rate cut to alleviate pressure on weaker currencies in the system and in reaction to growing economic weakness in Germany. There was news yesterday of a 1 per cent fall in industrial production in November. However, hopes of a rate cut are not high.

The Irish authorities hiked overnight money market rates to 50 per cent in an attempt to discourage speculation against the punt, while the franc enjoyed a respite from speculative pressure and rose to 3.4060 to the mark, its highest for about a month, against 3.4125 on Tuesday.

The pound's new-found popularity may be running out of steam but there does appear to have been a change of investor psychology towards the British currency. Ian Harwood of Warburg Securities noted that smaller company stocks have been outperforming other issues on the equity market, a sign of improved sentiment about economic prospects. He also believes sterling is being bought for interest rate reasons. "If the UK economy is showing signs of revival, is the government really going to cut rates further? This is what some investors are thinking," he said. This view contrasts with what seems to be in prospect elsewhere in Europe.



Schlesinger: priority

Comment, page 27

Receivers called in at Lilley

BY GEORGE SIVELL

LILLEY, the building and construction group, last night called in receivers, after being unable to secure the necessary unanimous support of a syndicate of banks for a restructuring proposal.

Sir Lewis Robertson, chairman, said: "Lilley is not alone among construction companies in having moved into property in the eighties. Indeed this was the motivation of the £28 million management buy-in of August 1988, headed by the former chief executive. It is unfortunate that the policies he spearheaded were pursued too long against a changing economic background.

"The board addressed this situation and a change of management produced a feasible way forward. I deeply regret that the requirement for unanimity among the banks has frustrated this, despite support from a broad front of investors and lenders."

Germans keep boatbuilders afloat

BY JON ASHWORTH

GERMANS with deep pockets are coming to the rescue of Britain's luxury boat builders. Sales of large power boats have soared since the pound plunged last autumn and more orders are coming from Germany than anywhere else.

Such is the talk of the trade at the 39th London International Boat Show which opens to the public today. Fairline Boats, Marine Projects (Plymouth) and Sunseeker, the big three UK motoryacht manufacturers, are looking to Germany to bail them out in what promises to be another grim year.

Fairline, which makes Squadron motoryachts, says German sales now make up nearly half its order book. The company had a disastrous 1992, slumping from a pre-tax profit of £3 million to a loss of £500,000 and seeing its earnings per share disintegrate from 56p to a loss of 7p. Sam Newington, chairman and managing director, is not pinning his hopes on a sharp recovery. He said: "We are not out of the woods yet but devaluation and lower UK interest rates have certainly helped."

Marine Projects, maker of Princess luxury power boats and Moody sailboats, says sales to Germany have increased 20 per cent in the last three months and the Middle East is making a strong comeback. The Kuwaiti Royal Family has just paid £400,000 for a new Princess 560.

Robert Braithwaite, managing director of Sunseeker, said orders from Germany had picked up since the Southampton Boat Show in October. The company, based in Poole, Dorset, expects turnover to rise from £36 million to £40 million in the year to March.

The boatbuilders could face another problem, from Brussels. The single market has made all new boat sales liable to VAT wherever they are registered in Europe. The Squadron 62, Fairline's biggest motoryacht, will shoot up from £694,000 to £815,000. Even worse, all boats purchased since 1985 may be liable for retrospective VAT. Brussels has left it up to individual countries to decide how to implement this move.

Photograph, page 22
Disabled sailors, page 40

THE SWISS KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT MONEY

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TEMPUS

Airtours flies into action at last minute

THE Airtours bid for Owners Abroad bears a striking similarity to the Redland-Steetley-Tarmac triangle that was running a year ago.

Two companies come together in a deal that offers considerable commercial benefits but is also seen as having defensive qualities in protecting one or other from an unwanted bid: the bid from a third party emerges before shareholders have a chance to vote on the venture.

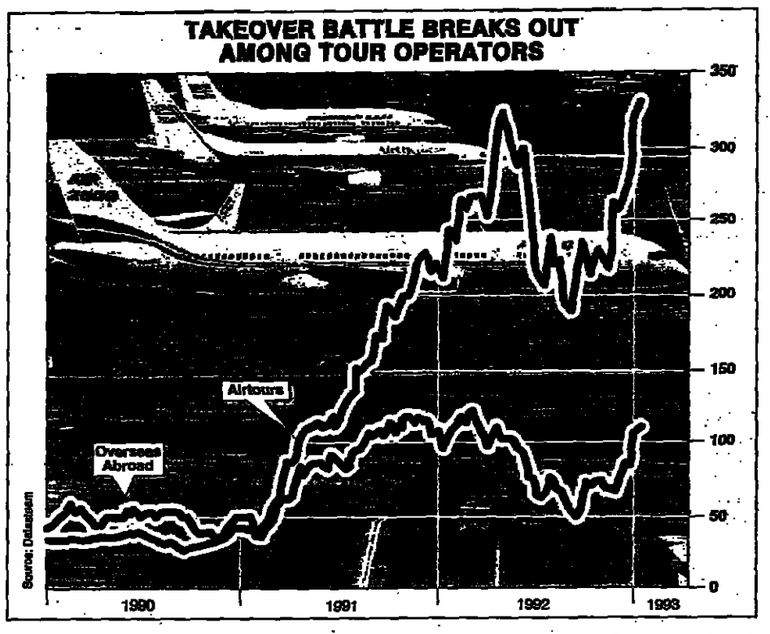
However, Airtours has left it a little later than Redland did. The Owners Abroad shareholders were to vote tomorrow on the link with Thomas Cook and one of its German parents, LTU Group. That vote has inevitably and rightly been put on hold until shareholders have a chance to consider the Airtours bid.

The German link involves the issue to Thomas Cook of a 10.3 per cent holding in Owners, mainly funded by the latter in that it would take mostly loan notes in exchange for the shares. Although it offered Owners a £7 million enhancement in profits in the first full year of operation, the deal clearly favours the Germans.

The stake was bought at £1 a share, at a time when Owners enjoyed a price in the market of 87p. The price has risen substantially since. At last night's close, the all-shares offer was worth 113.25p for every Owners share and the partial cash alternative 110.4p. Nigel Hicks, of Panmure Gordon, expects Owners to make, perhaps, £34 million pre-tax in the current year, so Airtours is offering a less than generous 9.4 times' this year's earnings, while the lack of a full cash alternative may in due course have to be remedied. Owners shares in the market, advancing 11p to 120p, suggest the issue is far from resolved.

The big question is whether the Germans, keen for a foothold in the British holiday market, are tempted back to make a full offer, which could then be trumped by a fuller price from Airtours. There appear to be no significant monopolies problems for the Airtours bid, given that the combined group will still lag behind Thomson, the leader, and can thereafter expect to lose some market share.

Airtours shares, selling on a similar multiple to Owners despite the company's outperformance of late, have their attractions, so investors should certainly not go short of Owners or be in too much of a hurry to cash in.



Tarmac

TARMAC'S share price has doubled since Black Wednesday to 107p, down 2p, yesterday, and the shares have made up lost ground both on the FTA building materials index and the FT-SE 100. But this may prove to be a case of recovery expected too early. Tarmac seems to have ended 1992 with a balance sheet that is disappointing to say the least. Assuming losses for the year of £200 million, shareholders' funds could be about £1 billion.

Tarmac is expected to have on balance sheet debts of just under £600 million, a contingent liability of £60 million and non-recourse off balance sheet debt of £140 million, leaving gearing at 80 per cent unless Econowaste is sold for £70 million, taking it to nearer 70 per cent.

To counter this, Tarmac wants to take £100 million of working capital out of its house-building arm, is looking at another £80 million of disposals. It has called in Coopers & Lybrand to advise on its property division, although some in the City expect disposals of £200 million to result. Even in 1993, cash flow from operations is expected to continue to be mildly negative although the dividend has been cut already from 11.25p to 5.5p.

If maintained the shares would yield 7.3 per cent. If achieving the disposals over the next year is as difficult as the City thinks it might be, expect a rights issue. But Tarmac needs to make its voice heard among all the other cash call hopefuls.

Chesterfield

IT IS a sorry sign of the times when a property company has to sell its biggest freehold for a yield of ten per cent to get its gearing down. But that is what Roger Wingate, chairman of Chesterfield Properties, has been forced to do.

His bankers may have been gratified by the £85 million sale of the group's prime site in Oxford Street that reduced gearing from an astronomical 200 per cent to a still dizzying 140 per cent, but the sale of the family silver has left the troubled group with few options in its future strategy.

The remaining property portfolio is unexciting and gearing is still too high to enable it to snap up the property bargains around.

Shareholders, and indeed the banks, can hardly be happy with a sale that provides a yield of ten per cent when interest rates on corporate lending are as low as nine per cent, giving a negative effect on cash flow. Furthermore, it may yet have to lower the price — already 18 per cent lower than book value — if rents fall before next year's review.

The final dividend, like the interim, is likely to be halved, and there seems little reason to assume that a full dividend will be restored in the next few years. Chesterfield may be over its acute crisis, but it faces a long convalescence.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Zeneca wants Italy to open way for new drug

ZENECA, the ICI pharmaceuticals business, has submitted Merrem, a wide acting antibiotic, for approval from the Italian medical authorities. ICI has high hopes for the drug and has chosen Italy as the first market because it is the largest for antibiotics in Europe. If approved, ICI would take advantage of the multistate procedure to gain approval in the rest of Europe. An application for use in America will be submitted later in 1993.

Dr Tom McKillop, Zeneca Pharmaceuticals technical director, said: "The submission has incorporated data from one of the largest regulatory clinical trials programmes ever undertaken throughout ICI. Including supplementary data from Japan, about 9,000 patients have entered clinical trials for the product." Zeneca is seeking approval to use Merrem for lower respiratory tract infection, urinary tract infection, intra-abdominal infection, meningitis, septicaemia, skin and soft tissue infections, gynaecological infections and polymicrobial infection. ICI shares rose 24p to 1109p yesterday.

Joint venture for Arjo

ARJO Wiggins Appleton, the papermaker, is joining Scottish Hydro-Electric to develop a £7.25 million gas-fired power plant at a paper mill. The electricity generator will contribute £4 million to the cost of the project at Arjo's Buckland Mill in Dover. Arjo will use steam produced by the boilers in paper production and Scottish Hydro will sell the surplus electricity to industrial customers and Seeboard, the regional electricity distributor based in East Sussex. The plant will be fuelled for the first five years by natural gas supplied by British Gas.

Banner back in black

BANNER Homes Group, the housebuilder and property investor that operates in the south of England, has returned to the black, hinting at "signs of a revival of interest". Higher margins and interest rate reductions helped the company report a small pre-tax profit of £4,000 in the six months to end-September (£483,000 loss). Turnover dipped to £3.37 million (£3.44 million). There were no earnings, compared with a loss of 3.3p a share last time. There is again no interim dividend.

Elf orders oil platform

ELF Enterprise, the joint venture between Elf, the state-owned French group, and Enterprise Oil, is to provide work for an estimated 670 by ordering a new accommodation platform for the Claymore field from SLP Engineering in Lowestoft and Teesside. The contract is believed to be in excess of £70 million. Elf Enterprise says the new platform will enhance safety, provide greater operational flexibility and boost oil recovery by reducing the field's operating costs. Offshore installation is expected in spring 1995.

Care Homes advance



HIGH occupancy levels helped Quality Care Homes, the northeastern nursing homes company that came to the market through a placing last July, to unveil a 135 per cent surge in maiden full-year profits to £1.83 million in the year to end-October (£781,000). Hamish Grossart, chairman, (right), said: "This better than projected performance has continued in November and December 1992 which augurs well for the current financial year." Earnings jumped to 11.77p (5.13p) a share. A dividend of 0.75p makes a total 0.90p.

Sydney C Banks grows

SYDNEY C Banks, the agricultural merchant and cereal processor, is raising its interim dividend to 3p (2.75p) a share after lifting pre-tax profits from £1.25 million to £1.53 million in the six months to end-October. Turnover grew from £115 million to £119 million. The company said that all divisions traded satisfactorily. The 1992 harvest was of mixed quality, enabling the company to use its trading skills and facilities to good effect. Earnings climbed to 12.4p a share, up from 11p a share last time. The shares rose 10p to 172p.

Hollas profits decline

HOLLAS, the textiles and garment group, saw declines in turnover, to £15.9 million (£18.4 million), and operating profits, to £613,000 (£663,000), in the six months to end-September and has pegged its interim dividend at 0.6p a share. Lower interest charges left pre-tax profits 8.5 per cent higher at £255,000 (£235,000). Earnings per share were unchanged at 0.3p. The recession has continued to depress levels of trading throughout the group. Shares in Hollas rose from 14½p to 16½p.

Cassidy pegs payout

CASSIDY Brothers, the USM-quoted toy manufacturer, has held its interim dividend at 0.75p a share despite lifting pre-tax profits 9 per cent to £716,055 (£659,000) in the six months to end-October. Turnover increased to £4.3 million (£4.1 million). Earnings per share were 9.02p (8.39p). The company has invested more than £400,000 in non-recurring capital projects, such as a new water cooling system and more production equipment. Trading conditions in the UK were described as poor.

Renault car sales drive ahead

FROM REUTER IN PARIS

WORLDWIDE sales of Renault cars and light trucks surged 6.7 per cent last year to 2 million, the French state-owned firm's best showing since 1983.

The sales rise, inspite of gloomy market conditions, was largely attributable to the firm's strong showing in the slightly firmer French market, where new car sales jumped 14.4 per cent to 622,170.

Renault's share of its home market, which was 26.8 per cent in 1991, rose to 29.6 per cent, its best performance in five years. Renault was helped by the success of the small Clio model and the introduction of the luxury Safrane sedan.

In Europe outside France, Renault maintained a stable sale volume in a market that shrank 2 per cent. In 17 European countries including France, Renault sold 1.43 million cars, 5.7 per cent more than in 1991, giving it a 10.7 per cent market share compared with 10 per cent in 1991. In a European market that shrank 1 per cent in 1992, Renault was the only firm that saw its sales rise significantly for the second consecutive year, it said. Car sales in Britain rose 14.6 per cent to 72,800, lifting its market share to 4.6 per cent from 4 per cent.

The volume of sales in Germany fell 11 per cent to 198,189, giving it a market share of 5.1 per cent, against 5.4 per cent in 1991. Car sales in Italy fell 4.2 per cent to 179,629 units.

New-look Flextech dives into red

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

FLEXTECH, the USM-quoted cable and satellite television group transformed after last year's exit from oil exploration, plunged into the red at the interim stage. The company, which last year sold its Expro oil services subsidiary to management for £55.3 million, suffered a pre-tax loss of £2.91 million in the six months to end-September, against a profit of £3.85 million. Turnover, affected by discontinued activities, dived to £2.15 million (£27.9 million). Flextech effectively has a 50.1 per cent stake in The Children's Channel, broadcast on the Astra satellite, through its joint venture with Tele-Communications Inc, the American cable group, which has a 74.9 per cent interest in the channel.

Stanislaus Yassukovich, chairman, said revenues at The Children's Channel, increased by 30 per cent over the last 12 months, boosted by higher advertising and subscription revenues. However, the costs for renting space on the satellites had also increased. "As a result of our transition from the mature oil services business to the emerging media field, losses have been incurred for the period," he said. He is confident of the potential of the new core business and is optimistic on future prospects.

There is again no interim. The year end is to change from end-March to end-December. The shares lost 5p to 81p.

Confidence rises in Midlands

BY OUR CITY STAFF

A SURVEY of nearly 700 companies in the Midlands has revealed rising business confidence in the manufacturing and service sectors. The study, carried out for the West Midlands Regional Group of Chambers of Commerce, found firms reporting improved order books.

During the final quarter of last year manufacturers recorded improvements in the home and export fields, with increased completion of contracts. Service companies also showed gains.

Investment plans for plant and machinery and building work have held steady and there was more confidence that turnover and profits would improve in the next 12 months. But about a quarter of the firms were expecting to axe jobs in the next three months. Andrew Millward, group chairman, commented that the underlying upward trend was encouraging, but any recovery was likely to be slow. "We are seeing some return of confidence and there are definitely improved opportunities now for companies, with interest rates lower than they have been for some time. The government could now act to consolidate this recovery by accelerating some of its own major infrastructure projects."

Sales give Bespak a boost

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

STRONG sales to the pharmaceutical industry, acquisitions and good returns from cash balances helped first-half profits surge at Bespak, the maker of specialist aerosol valves.

Pre-tax profits rose 68.5 per cent to £5.01 million in the 26 weeks to end-October, as turnover, boosted by acquisition, advanced 67 per cent to £27.4 million (£16.4 million). Glaxo is Bespak's biggest customer, accouting for about 25 per cent of group sales.

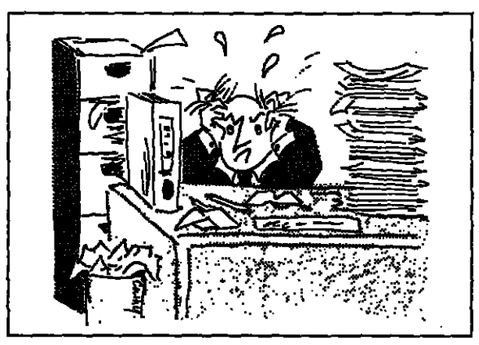
Sales to the pharmaceutical industry grew 20 per cent and account for about half of group sales, while about 34 per cent of sales come from the medical industry. Bespak benefited from a stronger American presence and a contribution from Tenax Holding Corporation, the American moulder of plastic medical components that was acquired for £33 million last March.

Bob King, chairman and chief executive, described the first-half performance as "satisfactory in spite of the difficult climate of recession and uncertainty" and said he was optimistic of continuing success.

A 4p interim dividend is recommended, against 3.50p previously. Earnings, adjusted for last year's rights issue, climb to 13.2p from 11.1p.

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T/7/1

War leaves Yugo dealers empty handed

BY KEVIN EASON
MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

AN UNHAPPY band of car salesmen has been forced to stand by and watch the revival in new car sales happen without them — because they have no new cars to sell.

Britain's 160 Yugo dealers face an uncertain future because the Yugoslav factory that supplied their showrooms now makes guns for the war there.

Zastava (GB), the British importer, has been forced to pay off almost all its staff of 100 at its headquarters office in Reading, Berkshire.

The importer has been scouring Europe for spare parts to keep the estimated 60,000 Yugo cars in Britain on the road. But the irony for the British dealers is that they have hung on through the recession only to find they have nothing to sell now the revival is in sight. December car sales, to be announced tomorrow, are expected to be up 30 per cent.



Eagleburger: was on board

Most dealers are changing to other models, but some have to rely on used car sales and servicing. The Yugo factory has been the subject of a UN trade embargo since the summer. Based in Serbian territory, it found its lucrative export market in the West cut off while its home market has collapsed.

Car assembly lines were finally shut over Christmas, with more than 30,000 of the plant's 49,000 workers laid off. Michael Lee, Zastava's managing director, is increasingly concerned for the future of his dealers and the estimated 1,500 people they employ. He said: "We are trying to hang on till the war is over and the factory goes back to work normally ... but normality looks a long way off."

These are also unhappy times for Eastern European car importers. Skoda, now jointly owned by Volkswagen, has terminated the long-standing import contract held by Skoda (Great Britain) and intends to set up its own network. The move comes after a similar decision by Volkswagen to buy out the Lonrho-owned VAG group.

Ludwik Thal, managing director of Skoda (Great Britain), has told 180 dealers, some of which have worked with the importer for 27 years, to import direct from the factory. Yugo sales in Britain reached 10,000 a year at peak, but fell back to fewer than 2,000 in 1992, unlike Skoda which has thrived in spite of dozens of poor jokes.

Yugo's biggest export market was the US, which took 49,000 cars at peak until Yugo America, the importer, folded in April. One of the Yugo America board members was Lawrence Eagleburger, the outgoing American secretary of state and a leading peace negotiator in Yugoslavia.

هكذا من الأصل

Losses of £215m at Stanhope add to property pain

By Susan Gilchrist

More asset disposals at basement prices are likely to depress the property market further as companies come under pressure to repair their balance sheets

FURTHER pain in the property market was in evidence yesterday from three companies despite hope of economic recovery this year.

Stanhope, the stricken property group, announced pre-tax losses of £215 million with Stuart Lipton, its chief executive, admitting: "We should have sold more properties at an earlier stage in the cycle."

The company, which acknowledged it was near to breaching loan covenants, also announced it has reached agreement with bankers over its debt repayment schedule. Repayments due in December 1993 have been extended until the end of 1996.

Stanhope is calling an extraordinary meeting of shareholders on January 29 to seek a change in its articles of association to increase the borrowing limits from two-and-a-half times adjusted capital plus reserves to a maximum of £300 million. The shares fell 6p to 17p.

In November, Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments, its main joint venture, persuaded its bankers to reschedule £950 million of debts to September 1997. In December, Rosehaugh, Stanhope's joint venture partner, went into receivership after failing to renegotiate its own debts.

One property analyst said yesterday: "What Stanhope announced today was probably the only option, but it is not good news. Eventually it will end up a very much smaller company... because it will have to make large scale disposals in order for the banks to recoup their money."

Mr Lipton agreed that Stanhope will inevitably decrease in size, but added: "We would welcome that."

With property prices still falling, disposals are unlikely until the end of the year when Stanhope believes values and rents will start to rise again.

Stanhope has a positive net asset value of about £40 million but gearing remains at 500 per cent. Analysts believe the company is unlikely to return to profit "for several years" and dividend payments will not happen for "an extraordinarily long time".

The problems in the property sector were also highlighted by Chesterfield Properties whose part-owned subsidiary, Anfield Properties, has been forced to sell United Kingdom House, its biggest property asset, for 18 per cent below its December 1991 book value to Arrowhead Properties, a private Jersey company.

The price tag of £85 million could fall a further £1.5 million if rents fall next year. Chesterfield will use net proceeds of the sale, about £26 million after minority interests and repayment of debts secured on the property, to reduce the group's debts. The share price jumped 32p to 230p on relief that gearing would now fall from 200 per cent to around 140 per cent.

Although many in the City think the company did well to get as much as it did for the site, Roger Wingate, the chairman, was less bullish: "I am disappointed to have to sell such a good property at such a price reflecting a 10 per cent yield. But it does free us from the straitjacket falling property values imposed on us."

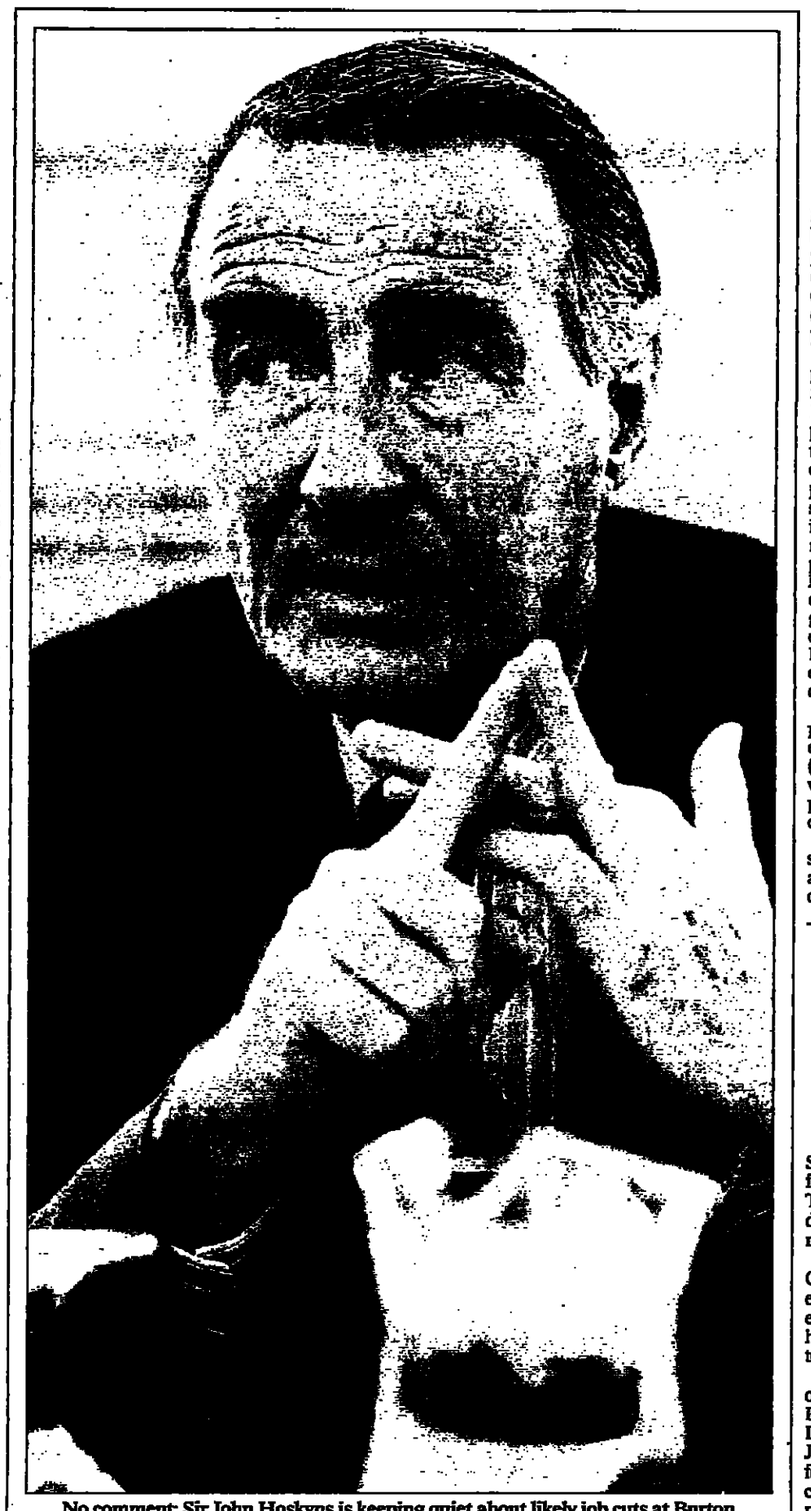
London & Provincial Shop Centres, the main subsidiary of Randsworth Acquisition, now in administrative receivership, has announced a restructuring of the company in a bid to avert receivership.

The group's banker, and largest creditor, Citibank has put up the cash required to pay off debenture stockholders in a move that will give effective control of the company to Citibank. It has agreed to redeem debenture stock at 95p in the pound. It is now hoped that the company will be kept alive long enough to extract maximum value from its property portfolio through asset disposals.

London & Provincial's balance sheet at the end of June 1992 had negative net asset value of £32.7 million and the company's directors estimate the situation has worsened since. The company made a loss of £1.1 million for the six months to December.

Barings, Citibank's advisers, said: "It got to the point where Citibank wanted to run the company with their own property experts." Even so it could be five years before Citibank can recoup its money through asset disposals.

Tempus, page 24



No comment: Sir John Hoskyns is keeping quiet about likely job cuts at Burton

Jobs threatened at Burton

By Martin Flanagan

USDAW, the shopworkers union, is to meet the management of Burton Group, the clothing retailer whose outlets include Top Shop, Top Man, Evans, Dorothy Perkins and Debenhams, against a backdrop of reports that the company is set to axe a further 1,500 jobs.

Burton, whose chairman is Sir John Hoskyns, would not confirm or deny such a meeting is scheduled. A spokesman said: "We never comment in these situations." However, a Usdaw spokesman said a meeting between Frank Murphy, its national officer, and the Burton management had been "recently arranged".

The union could not give a precise date or say whether the meeting related to the reports of the latest job cuts, which are said to involve 1,000 layoffs on the stores and distribution sides, and 500 in the head office.

Retailing sector analysts would not be surprised if significant Burton redundancies were on the cards. One said: "It would not be a shock given that the group has one of the very highest wages-to-sales ratios in the sector."

Mark Josefson, a retailing analyst at Panmure Gordon, said job cuts at head office might be expected, but that the figure of 1,000 layoffs on the shopfloor and in distribution "does seem a little on the high side".

The rumoured redundancies at Burton come shortly before its annual shareholders meeting, scheduled for January 21, when the company is expected to comment on its Christmas trading performance. In the year to the end of last August, Burton transformed a £13.4 million trading loss into a £9.4 million profit.

However, the City was disappointed by a full-year dividend payout of 2p, against 2.7p last time.

In addition, City attention has focused on a catalogue of senior management changes at the group. Early last year, Laurence Cooklin, the chief executive, left, only 15 months after the celebrated departure of the flamboyant Sir Ralph Halpern from the helm.

Mr Cooklin has been succeeded as chief executive by American-born John Hoerner, formerly the chairman and chief executive of Debenhams.

Electricity bills could fall 4%

By Patricia Tehan

ELECTRICITY bills could fall by as much as 4 per cent if plans to stop the generating companies from charging excessive prices to guarantee essential power supplies are put into action.

The National Grid Company, the electricity supply network that is owned by the 12 regional distribution companies, has proposed a system to help stabilise the price of electricity whereby it would provide a hedge against the so-called "uplift" component in the electricity pool, or spot market. Uplift is an extra payment to generators if they have to keep a power station on the transmission system to guarantee security of supply, even if the plant does not run. In the last financial year to end-March 1992, uplift charges totalled £475 million.

In October, Professor Stephen Littlechild, director general of the Office of Electricity (Offer), began a review of the way National Grid pays for power from this constrained-on plant.

National Grid proposes a system under which it would assume the risk on most of components of most of the uplift charge, accounting for £372 million of last year's bill.

Dr Tony White, head of transmission business at National Grid, said that to date no one has been willing to take on responsibility for controlling uplift charges and there is no incentive to reduce them.

He said National Grid has asked Offer for a change to its licence to allow it to provide contracts with the 12 regional supply companies of England and Wales under which National Grid would provide a hedge against uplift charges in return for a fee. National Grid hopes the service will come into operation in April.

At the same time, it would sign contracts with the two generators, National Power and PowerGen under which NGC would pay them a fixed fee up front in return for which they would charge lower prices for plant needed at peak times.

The savings to electricity customers would come in arrangements with the generators to provide compensation to National Grid if their plant did not perform as instructed.

National Power and PowerGen said they were studying the proposals.

Gatt deal sought by Brittan

From Tom Walker in Brussels

SIR Leon Brittan has called for a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade world trade deal to be finalised by the middle of the month.

Sir Leon, the European Commission's new external economic affairs commissioner, said he was ready to plunge himself into the unfamiliar territory of Gatt negotiations.

He said that the target date of mid-January laid down by President Bush; Jacques Delors, the EC leader; and John Major represented a formidable challenge for the commission, but not an impossible one. He was determined to take that challenge seriously.

Sir Leon's statement was made as a welter of new trade problems, caused by the advent of the single market, piled up. Customs authorities are unsure of what to do with foreign goods until new global quotas for the EC as a whole have been agreed.

Foreign raiders target UK

By Jon Ashworth

THE value of foreign purchases of UK companies soared last year from $9.3 billion to $15.1 billion in the rush to beat the arrival of the single European market. Most buying of EC companies occurred in the UK, where 233 were sold to foreign buyers, according to a survey by KPMG Peat Marwick. Topping the bill was Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank's $7.4 billion purchase of Midland Bank.

Germany was the second most popular EC target for cross-border buyers who bought 168 German companies for $6.1 billion, followed by France, where 166 were sold, also for $6.1 billion. EC companies were involved in 1,375 transactions, either as target or bidder. KPMG expects the trend to continue. Industries such as the food and drink sector remain relatively fragmented, and further activity is expected this year.

GA Life payout change

By Lindsay Cook, money editor

GENERAL Accident Life has cut maturity payouts on short-term policies and slightly increased those on 25-year policies. The company, which made no cuts last year, will pay out £70 million to policyholders this year with about £40 million going to ten-year policies.

The pay out on a ten-year policy taken out by a 29-year-old paying £30 a month is down 6.2 per cent to £6,590. The same policy over 25 years will pay £65,464 compared with £65,255 last year. The bonus on the sum assured for life policies is being reduced by 0.5 per cent to 4.25 per cent and the bonus on the bonus is being increased from 6 per cent to 6.5 per cent. The bonus on sum assured is being reduced by 1 per cent to 8 per cent on retirement annuities but the bonus on the bonus is increased by 0.4 per cent to 10.5 per cent.

GA Life's free asset ratio at the end of 1991 had falled to 38.6 per cent from 43.2 per cent. The company does not expect it to have reduced further in 1992.

Inchcape drives into Oman

By Jon Ashworth

INCHCAPE, the international services and marketing group, is making a £9.6 million push into the Middle East motor market. The group, the world's biggest independent car distributor, has taken a 49 per cent stake in Towell Auto Centre, a company that has the exclusive import and distribution rights for Mazda vehicles in Oman with 7 per cent share of the Oman car market. It also distributes Castrol lubricants, Lucas parts and Suzuki motorbikes.

Inchcape will manage the company and is paying £8.4 million to WJ Towell, an Oman company, with the rest due over three years. Derek Whittaker, a director of Inchcape, said the deal consolidated a long relationship with Mazda. It imports and distributes Mazdas in France, Hong Kong and Finland, has a 40 per cent share of the Mazda UK import and distribution business and 50 per cent of a joint venture that markets Mazda in southern China.

Tarmac to revamp housing division

By George Sivell

TARMAC, the quarrying and construction group that is also Britain's largest housebuilder, announced cutbacks in the housing division which threaten 273 jobs and are intended to take £100 million of working capital out of the division.

The group is cutting the target number of houses to be built during this year to 7,000, after completing 8,000 in 1992. Four of Tarmac's 20 regional units will be closed by merging operations with neighbouring offices. The four employ 273.

Tarmac is struggling under large debts and has embarked on a £300 million disposal programme of which £150 million has so far come in. Tarmac Econowaste, which analysts think could be worth £70 million, is understood to be the subject of disposal talks at the moment.

Tarmac shares fell 2p to 107p. The group is also looking at a management consultants report by Coopers & Lybrand on the property division. The group signalled a withdrawal from commercial property development at the time of its interim results in September.

In housebuilding, Tarmac says it is selling Thomas Lowe, its specialist joinery company, and reducing the number of sites and showhomes. Tarmac says the plans will enable it to respond to changing market conditions more rapidly. Neville Simms, the chief executive, said: "We are encouraged by recent reports that predict a pick up in the housing market later this year. Today's announcement is therefore timely as well as being in line with our continuing strategy of refocusing core activities while reducing the group's debt."

Mike Betts, analyst at Goldman Sachs, says if Econowaste is sold Tarmac will end 1992 with net debts of just over £700 million and that there is likely to be a small cash outflow from trading in 1993. He is predicting pre-tax losses of £205 million for 1992 and a maintained dividend of 5.5p a share.

Tempus, page 24

Deadlock over job losses

TSB strike poised after talks fail

By Neil Bennett, banking correspondent

THE one-day strike at TSB is expected to go ahead tomorrow after talks between the bank and union leaders at Acas broke down yesterday afternoon.

Executives from the bank led by Bill Tilden, the employment relations director, and negotiators from the Banking, Insurance and Finance Union met for four hours to discuss the 1,000 jobs that the bank proposes to shed.

Bifu asked TSB to make a commitment to avoid making compulsory redundancies, which it refused. The union then asked the bank to seek applicants for voluntary redundancy, which it also refused.

TSB's executives revealed that they want to change the job security agreement with the union to make compulsory redundancies easier. They also refused to back down on their decision to contract out the bank's printing and warehousing department at the cost of 100 jobs.

TSB is cutting the jobs in a reorganisation which is merging the management of its banking and insurance business. The bank sent 500 junior managers home just before Christmas. The cuts follow an earlier reorganisation that has cost 5,000 jobs in the past three years. TSB says the reorganisation is needed to maintain its position as a successful financial institution. Bifu claims the changes will harm the service to customers.

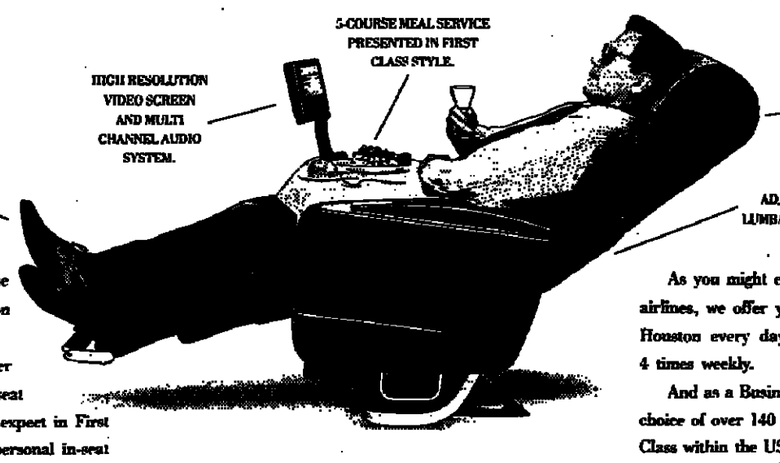
After the meeting, Bifu's leaders were angry at the lack of flexibility shown by the bank. "This confirms to us that the TSB is determined to have compulsory redundancies," said John Townsend, an assistant secretary.

The union expects the strike to close at least half of TSB's 1,400 branches tomorrow. The bank's cash machines are expected to stay open unless they break down, but may run out of money during the weekend since they will not be refilled. TSB promises it will minimise the disruption to customers. A statement from the TSB said that it had made every effort to reach an amicable settlement over the job losses, which it said were "unavoidable in today's competitive environment". The bank said the reorganisation would provide customers with better service.

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CS to take control of Swiss Volksbank

FROM REUTER IN ZURICH

CS HOLDING, the Swiss international financial group, is to create Switzerland's biggest banking group by taking over Swiss Volksbank.

The two groups and Credit Suisse, CS's flagship bank, announced that Volksbank's directors had approved an offer to swap Volksbank stock into CS Holding stock. "CS Holding will make an exchange offer [to shareholders] at the beginning of February in conformity with the Swiss takeover code," they said.

The deal puts a value of SwFr1.6 billion (£711 million) on Volksbank and is the most dramatic sign yet of the speed at which Switzerland's banking sector, with more than 450 banks, is streamlining.

The bid was CS Holding's second major coup in three years. In 1990, it bought Bank Leu, Switzerland's oldest bank, in a rare hostile takeover. Volksbank, like Leu, will retain its name and identity. But CS Holding made clear it would now redefine Credit Suisse, which offers the full range of bank services, to focus on big clients, securities issuing and foreign and high-street business.

Volksbank would focus, as now, on high street business and lending to small and medium firms — the sector that led Volksbank into trouble in the past two years as asset values collapsed and loan defaults spiralled.

In 1991, Volksbank only managed a net profit of SwFr68.4 million by mobilising SwFr100 million of hidden reserves. It more than doubled its provisions for bad debts to almost SwFr400 million and analysts expect 1992's new provisions to top SwFr500 million.

These burdens had led analysts to ask what CS Holding had to gain from taking over Volksbank, and pushed its bearer share down SwFr70 on Tuesday to SwFr2,100. They expect a dramatic thinning out of Volksbank's retail branches and 6,600 staff.

CS Holding said it would offer three of its own registered shares, together worth SwFr1,194 at the current rate, for one Volksbank share now worth SwFr720.

STOCK MARKET

BA hits City turbulence over traffic slowdown

SHARES in **British Airways** encountered turbulence, dropping 20p to 288p, after the company's December traffic figures failed to live up to City expectations.

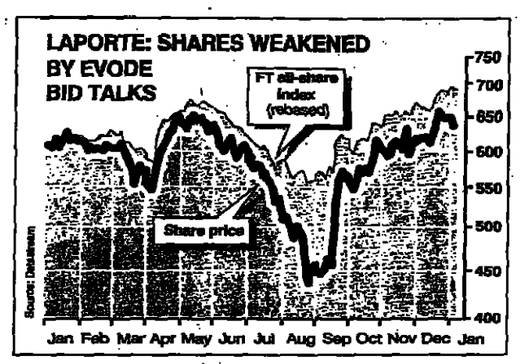
These showed sheduled passenger traffic slowing to 9.7 per cent in the third quarter. Revenue passenger kilometres rose by 10.3 per cent compared with the same time last year, but this figure included services previously operated by Dan Air. After stripping out the Dan Air contribution, the final figure fell to 8.7 per cent.

British Airway's broker, UBS Phillips & Drew, did much of the damage to the share price. After taking one look at the traffic details, it cut its pre-tax profits forecast for the current year by £50 million to £230 million.

Next time, it is looking for a final figure of £350 million. P&D said there was a marked increase in revenue after the pound's devaluation, but ticket sales have not increased.

P&D had also under-estimated the cost of increasing airline capacity and it now looks as though the rise will be more than double its original estimate of 4 per cent. Warburg Securities is also thought to have downgraded its profit forecast in the wake of the traffic figures, and brokers fear further weakness in the price.

Elsewhere, the bears continued to hold the upper hand, with attempts at a rally proving short lived. The FT-SE



100 index ended 7.6 lower, at 2,826.0. But selling pressure was described as light and turnover was a healthy 701 million shares. **ICI**, one of the Tempus selection for 1993, climbed another 24p to £11.09, helped by currency movements. It stretches the lead of the past two days to 39p. **Kwik Save Discount**, the supermarket group, climbed 17p to 803p ahead of today's annual general meeting. The group has been telling analysts that Christmas sales growth had risen by double figures. A similar story is expected from **Tesco**, up 13½p at 271½p. Williams de Broë, BZW and James Capel were all buyers of Tesco yesterday. **BAT Industries** was a weak market, falling 13p to 978p, worried by proposals to double tobacco tax in New York state. **Owners Abroad**, the package tour operator, rose 11p to 120p in response to the expected bid from **Airtours**, down 19p at 302p. Airtours is offering three of its own shares for every eight of Owners, equivalent to 113¼p a share, and valuing the entire group at £226 million. The bid is designed to block the proposed sale of a 10.3 per cent stake in Owners to LTU, the German travel group, which recently bought Thomas Cook. Owners described the approach as unsolicited. Its shareholders were due to vote on the link-up with LTU tomorrow . Talk last night suggested the Germans may now bounce back with an all-out offer of 130p a share.

Eurocamp, reporting later this month, was also excited by the bid for Owners, jumping 21p to 350p.

Laporte Industries fell 16p to 613p as traders continued to reflect on the group's decision to join the tussle for control of **Evode**, the Evostik adhesives group. On Tuesday, while the talks were in progress, Laporte decided to offer 100p a share for up to 10 per cent of the company.

Wassall, unchanged at 207p, has increased its offer for Evode from 80p to 95p a share. Evode is continuing to reject the terms from Wassall, but brokers are concerned that Laporte is now about to become embroiled in a drawn-out and expensive bid battle. Evode firmed 1p to 105p.

Tarmac slipped 2p to 107p after revealing plans to restructure its housing operations. It is closing four companies in the South and Midlandsand plans to dispose of Thomas Lowe, its joinery business.

MICHAEL CLARK

Monarch Resources, which is exploring for gold, and finding it, in Venezuela, rose 6p to 72p on North American recognition of that country as a viable and low-cost gold producer. Monarch has been under new management since Michael Beckett, formerly of ConsGold, became chairman in 1991.

Airbus operating profits hold steady

FROM REUTER IN PARIS

AIRBUS Industrie, the European aircraft consortium whose members include British Aerospace, said that operating profits for 1992 were in line with the previous year's earnings of about $267 million.

The consortium does not formally publish profit figures but Jean Pierson, managing director, said it remained in the black even after repaying $700 million in "refundable launch aid" to its partners and amortisation of $200 million last year. Mr Pierson said he expected 1993 would be another difficult year for the consortium in terms of managing its order book, which took several hits in 1992 when GPA Group, the leasing firm, and NWA Inc, parent of Northwest Airlines, abandoned orders.

Airbus was effectively in the position of financing Northwest's aircraft purchases last year and decided to "clean-up" its order book by cancelling the Northwest orders because it could no longer afford to do this. "One must ask oneself at what point one must stop," Mr Pierson said, adding that Airbus reached that point in September 1992, when it decided to take a hard look at the Northwest orders.

Airbus delivered 157 aircraft with a current value of $7.3 billion in 1992 after 1991 deliveries of 163 planes.

Mr Pierson said he did not know whether Airbus would be able to launch its 124-seat A319 this year.


Pierson: a difficult year

WORLD MARKETS

Investor caution knocks Nikkei

Tokyo — Shares ended modestly easier but off the lows on last-minute buying. Futures-linked selling depressed sentiment while investors took a cautious attitude on gloomy prospects for the economy, brokers said. Only a few hi-tech related issues drew investors' attention.

One big four broker said: "People are waiting for the government to put forward additional plans to stimulate the economy. Hopes for easier credit are growing, but investors are hesitant about taking fresh positions."

The Nikkei average was down 59.70 points, or 0.35 per cent, to 16,782.88, with an estimated 170 million shares traded.

☐ **Hong Kong** — Shares ended higher in moderate trading, helped by expectations of renewed institutional buying for the new year, brokers said. The Hang Seng index put on 38.64 points to close at 5,586.67, after a two per cent surge on Tuesday. Simon Lam, a senior analyst at Mansion House Securities, said: "Funds that have unloaded stocks at the end of 1992 are expected to accumulate their portolios, thus prompting buying of index heavyweights."

☐ **Singapore** — Blue chips suffered from profit-taking after sharp gains on Tuesday, but the market ended mixed, with advancing shares leading declining issues by a two to one ratio. Dealers said the underlying tone was still bullish, but some appeared to be resting before traditionally active buying in the run-up to the Chinese new year. The Straits Times industrial index fell 4.13 points to 1,558.22 after the previous day's rise of 31.24 points to 1,562.35, an 18-month high.

☐ **Sydney** — Uncertainty over the Australian dollar helped to bring an end to the market's new year rally. After climbing more than 30 points from its pre-Christmas level, the All Ordinaries index closed 22.7 points down, at 1542.1. Brokers said that investors who had lost on the dollar plunge had turned to profit-taking. (*Reuter*)

Wall Street mixed in early trading

New York — Wall Street shares were mixed in early trading amid more rotation out of larger-capitalised growth stocks into larger-capitalised cyclical issues, traders said. Ken Ducey, BT Brokerage's head trader, said: "It looks like more churning action."

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 2.71 points to 3,305.16. In the broad market, advancing shares nudged ahead of declining issues six to five. Traders said the insurance sector was weak.

☐ **Frankfurt** — Shares ended mixed after a roller-coaster session ahead of today's eagerly awaited meeting of the Bundesbank council. The Dax index closed at 1,556.38, down just 0.04 point below Tuesday's close of 1,556.42. It had hit a high of 1,560.61 shortly after the open, but dropped back to a low of 1,545.94 before recovering. One dealer said: "The market is nervous." Some traders thought there was a chance that the Bundesbank would ease rates at its first 1993 meeting, but many were sceptical. (*Reuter*)

STOCKS

	Jan 6 midday	Jan 5 close
AMF Inc	58	58
AMR Corp	65¾	64¾
Abbott Labs	39⅝	39⅝
Aetna Life	47¼	46⅝
Ahmanson (H.F)	18	17¾
Air Prod & Chem	47⅝	47⅜
Albertson's	25⅞	25⅝
Alcan Aluminum	18	18⅛
Alco Standard	37⅛	36⅝
Allied Signal	60	59⅝
Altria Co of Am	73	73⅛
Amax	16⅛	16⅝
Amerada Hess	45⅜	45⅝
Amer Brands	38⅛	38
Amer Cyanamid	57⅜	57⅞
Amer El Power	33	33⅝
Amer Express	25⅜	25⅞
Amer Gen Corp	36⅛	35⅝
Amer Home Pr	64⅛	64⅝
Amer Intl	111⅝	112⅛
Amer Stores	43⅛	43⅜
Amer T & T	52	51⅝
Ameritech	70⅛	70⅜
Amoco	49⅝	49⅝
Anheuser-Busch	58⅛	58⅛
Apple Computer	60⅛	59⅜
Archer Daniels	27	26⅝
Arkla	8⅛	8⅛
Armco	9⅛	9⅛
Armstrng Wrld	33⅛	33⅛
Asarco	26⅛	26⅛
Ashland Oil	28	28⅛
Atl Richfield	114⅛	114
Auto Data Pro	52⅝	52⅝
Avery Dennison	28⅛	28⅛
Avon Product	54	54⅛
Baker Hughes	19⅝	19⅝
Baltim Gas & El	23⅞	23⅞
Bank One	32	32⅛
BankAmerica	46	45⅝
Bank of NY	53⅛	53⅜
Bankers Tr NY	69⅜	69⅜
Bartlett Bankin	41⅛	41⅛
Bausch & Lomb	53⅜	53½
Baxter Intl	30⅝	31⅛
Becin Dickinsn	78	77⅞
Bell Atlantic	61	60⅞
BellSouth	52	51⅞
Black & Decker	18⅝	18⅜
Black (H&R)	39⅜	39⅜
Boeing	40	40
Boise Cascade	21⅞	21⅝
Borden Inc	28⅛	28⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	63⅞	65
Browning Ferris	26⅝	26½
Burlington Nthn	44	44
CBS	186	186⅝
CNA Financial	98⅜	98⅜
CPC Intl	48⅝	48
CSX	71⅛	70⅝
Campbell Soup	42	42⅝
Can Pacific	13⅝	13
Cpri Cities ABC	498⅛	497½
Cpri Holdings	77⅛	77⅛
Carolina Pwr	56⅜	56⅛
Caterpillar	54⅛	54⅜
Central & SW	29⅜	28⅝
Champion Intl	29	29⅛
Chase Manhat	28⅜	28⅛
Chemical BK	37⅛	38
Chevron Corp	69⅝	69⅝
Chrysler	35⅜	33⅞
Chubb Corp	86⅛	86
Cigna Corp	59⅝	58⅞
Cincorp	21⅜	21⅛
Clorox	48⅝	48⅝
Coastal Corp	24⅛	24⅜
Coca Cola	47⅞	48
Colgate-Palmolve	53⅝	53⅞
Columbia Gas	18⅝	18⅝
Cmnwlthw Ed	25⅞	25
Compaq Comp	48⅛	48
Comp Ass Int	20⅝	20⅝
Conagra	33⅝	32⅝
Cons Edison	25⅝	25⅜
Cons Nat Gas	45⅞	45⅝
Cons Rail	48⅛	47⅞
Cooper Inds	45⅝	45⅝
Corning Inc	38⅜	38⅛
Crown Cork	40⅞	40⅝
Dana Corp	48⅛	48
Dayton Hudson	74⅛	74⅛
Deere	42⅝	42⅝
Delta Air Lines	51⅛	51
Deluxe Corp	46⅞	46⅝
Detroit Edison	25⅝	25⅝
Digital Equip	34⅜	33⅞
Dillard Dept St	48⅛	48
Disney (Wlt)	63⅜	63⅜
Dominion Res	39⅜	39⅜
Donelley (RR)	32⅝	32⅝
Dover Corp	47⅛	46⅝
Dow Chemicals	89⅜	89⅞
Dow Jones	39⅛	38⅞
Dresser	17⅜	17⅜
Duke Power	36⅛	36⅛
Dun & Bradstreet	58⅝	58⅝
Du Pont	48⅛	48⅛
Eastman Kodak	41⅞	41⅝
Eaton Corp	80⅛	79⅝

	Jan 6 midday	Jan 5 close
Emerson Elec	55	54⅞
Engelhard Corp	35⅛	35¼
Enron Corp	47⅞	47⅞
Entergy Corp	32⅝	33
Envirl Corp	39⅜	39⅛
Exxon	62⅛	62⅜
FMC Corp	59⅜	59⅜
FPL Group	39⅜	39⅛
Federal Expres	38⅛	38⅝
Fed Nat Mtge	78	78⅛
First Chicago	37⅜	37⅜
First Interstate	46⅜	46⅛
First Union Rlty	9⅛	9⅛
First Fed Crp	32⅝	32⅝
Fleet Corp	41	40⅝
Ford Motor	44⅝	44⅞
GTE Corp	34⅞	34⅞
Gannett	53⅛	53⅝
Gap Inc Del	35⅞	35⅝
Gen Electric	88⅜	88⅛
Gen Mills	58⅛	57⅞
Gen Motors	33⅝	33⅝
Gen Reinsurance	114⅛	112½
Gen Signal	61⅛	61
Genuine Parts	39⅜	38
Georgia Pac	61⅛	61⅛
Gillette	34⅛	35
Glaxo ADR	33	33⅛
Goodrich (BF)	49⅜	49⅜
Goodyear Tire	69⅞	69
Grace (WR)	39⅜	39⅜
Grt Atl Pac Tea	30⅜	30⅛
Great Wstn Fin	18⅜	18⅛
Halliburton	28⅜	28⅛
Heinz (HJ)	44	43⅞
Hercules	64⅜	64⅞
Hershey Foods	48⅛	47⅞
Hewlett Packard	72⅛	70
Hilton Hotels	44⅛	43⅝
Home Depot	64⅛	64⅛
Honeywell	70⅛	70⅛
Household Intl	55⅝	55⅛
Houston Inds	46	46
Humana	20	19⅞
ITT Corp	71⅛	71⅛
Illinois Tool	66⅛	66⅛
INCO	25⅝	25⅝
Ingersoll Rand	30	30⅛
Inland Steel	22⅝	22⅝
Intel Corp	91	91
IBM	48	48⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	105⅞	106⅛
Intl Paper	65⅝	65⅝
James River Va	18⅛	18⅛
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	87⅛	88⅛
K Mart	23⅝	23⅝
Kellogg	66	66⅛
Kerr-McGee	44	44⅛
Kimberly-Clark	64⅛	64⅛
Knight-Ridder	58⅛	58⅛
Lilly (ED)	80	80⅛
Limited Inc	28⅜	27⅞
Lin Broadcng	25⅞	26⅛
Lincoln Nat	72⅛	71⅞
Litton	48⅝	48⅜
Lk Shelborne	41⅛	41⅛
Lockheed Corp	35⅝	35⅝
Louisiana Pac	62	61⅞
MCI Communs	40⅛	40
Marriott	21	21
Marsh & McLnn	89⅛	89⅛
Martin Marietn	38⅝	39
Masco Corp	31⅛	30
May Dept St	69⅝	70⅛
Maytag Corp	14⅛	14⅛
McGraw Edisn	37⅞	37⅞
McDonalds	48⅝	48⅝
McDonnell D	51⅛	50⅝
McGraw Hill	60⅝	61
Mead Corp	38⅝	38⅛
Medtronic	31⅛	31⅛
Mellon Bk	55⅜	55⅜
Melville Corp	53⅛	53⅞
Merck Inc	41⅛	42⅛
Merrill Lynch	38⅛	37⅞
Minnesota Mine	99⅛	99⅛
Mobil Corp	63⅜	63⅜
Monsanto	55⅝	56⅛
Morgan (JP)	65⅝	65⅞
Motorola Inc	102⅝	103⅛
Natl Medical	12⅝	12⅝
Natl Semi	11⅛	10⅞
Nat Service Ind	26⅛	26⅜
Navistar Int	2⅝	2⅝
NBD Bancorp	31⅞	31⅝
NY Times A	27	26⅝
Newmont Mng	40⅛	40⅛
Nlsg Mohawk	19⅛	19⅛
Nthn Bell	81⅛	81⅛
NL Industries	9⅛	9⅛
Nordstrom	38⅛	37⅞
Norfolk Sthrn	63⅝	63
Nthn State Pwr	45⅛	43⅛
Norwest Corp	43⅛	43⅛
Nynex Corp	84	84
Occidental Pet	17⅝	17⅝
Ohio Edison	23	23⅛

	Jan 6 midday	Jan 5 close
Oracle Systems	39⅛	39⅝
Oryx Energy Co	19⅝	19⅝
PNC Financial	28⅛	28⅝
PPG Industries	69⅛	69⅝
Pacific Intl	57	57⅛
Pacificorp	20	20
Pac Enterprises	18	18⅛
Pac Gas & Elect	33⅜	33⅝
Pac Telesis	49⅝	49⅝
Pall Corp	29⅝	29⅝
Panhandle Eas	17⅝	17
Paramnt Comms	49⅝	49⅝
Parker Hannifin	32	32⅛
Pennzoy (PC)	39⅝	39⅜
Pennzoil	30	30
Pepsico	40⅛	40⅛
Pfizer	69⅞	69⅞
Phelps Dodge	49⅜	50⅛
Philadel Elec	20⅝	20⅝
Philip Morris	71⅛	71⅜
Phillips Pet	30⅛	30⅛
Pitney Bowes	38⅝	39⅛
Polaroid	39⅛	39⅛
Price Co	38	37⅞
Primerica	45⅜	46⅛
Procter & Gamble	53⅝	53
Pub Serv E & G	30⅝	30⅝
Quaker Oats	34⅛	34⅛
Ralston Purina	47⅝	48⅛
Raytheon Corp	41⅛	42⅛
Raytheon	53⅝	51⅞
Reebok Intl	34⅜	34⅝
Reynolds Metals	53⅛	53⅛
Roadway Svcs	68⅛	68⅛
Rockwell Intl	28⅛	28⅛
Rohm & Haas	34⅜	34⅜
Royal Dutch	89⅛	89⅛
Rubbermaid	32⅝	32⅝
Safeco Corp	57⅜	58⅛
St Paul's Cos	77⅛	78⅛
Salomon Inc	35⅛	35⅜
Santa Fe Pac	13⅜	13
Sara Lee Corp	38⅛	38⅜
Scecorp	43⅝	43⅝
Schering Plough	59⅝	60⅛
Schlumberger	38⅜	38⅛
Scott Paper	50⅛	50
Seagrams	35⅝	35⅝
Sears Roebuck	44⅛	44
Shell Trans	41⅛	41⅛
Sherwin Wilms	30⅛	30⅛
Skyline Corp	21⅞	21⅞
Soup-Or-Tomky	31⅛	31⅛
Southern Co	38⅜	38⅜
Shwestern Bell	73	72⅞
Sprint Corp	25⅝	25⅝
Stanley Works	41⅛	41⅛
Sun Company	32⅛	32⅛
Suntrust	44⅛	44⅛
Superwin	31⅛	31⅛
Sybtex Corp	22⅛	22⅛
Sysco Corp	26⅛	26⅛
TRW Inc	57⅛	57⅛
Tandem Comp	16	15⅞
Tenny Corp	30⅜	30⅜
Telecom Corp	1⅛	1⅛
Teledyne	20⅛	20⅝
Temple Inland	58⅝	58⅝
Tenneco	40⅜	39⅞
Texaco	59⅝	60⅛
Texas Inst	52⅜	49⅝
Texas Utilities	43	42⅝
Textron	44⅛	44⅛
Thos Betts	46⅛	46⅛
Times-Mirror	31⅛	31⅛
Timken	26⅛	26⅛
Torchmark	57⅜	57
Toys R Us	39	39⅛
Transamerica	48	48
Travelers Corp	26⅛	26⅛
Tribune	48⅛	48⅛
Tyco Labs	43⅜	43⅛
UAL Corp	124⅛	125
UST Inc	31⅛	31⅛
USX Marathon	17⅝	17⅝
Unilever NV	103⅝	104
Union Camp	46⅛	46⅛
Union Carbide	16⅛	16⅛
Union Pacific	59⅛	59
Unisys Corp	10⅛	10⅛
USAIR Group	14⅛	14
USFHG Corp	12⅛	12
US Life	28⅜	28⅛
US West	38⅜	38⅛
United Tech	49⅛	49⅞
Unocal Corp	26⅛	24⅞
Upjohn	31⅛	31⅛
VF Corp	33⅜	33⅛
Wal-Mart Stores	25⅞	25⅝
Warner-Lambert	66	67⅛
Waste Mgmnt Inc	39⅜	40
Wells Fargo	75⅛	75⅛
Westinghouse El	14⅞	14⅛
Weyerhaeuser	38⅛	38
Whirlpool	43⅞	43⅞
Whittman	14⅛	14⅛
Winn Dixie	76⅛	76⅛
Woolworth	32⅝	32⅝
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	53⅝	53⅞
Xerox	85⅛	84⅞

Critchley Group (220)	253	+5
Foreign & Col PEP Inv Tst	103	...
Hoare Gvt Smlr Co Index	102	+1
Hunters Armley (90)	111	...
Intl Food Machinery (51)	68	+7
Jos Holdings Capital	40	...
Jos Holdings Income	94	...
Jos Zero Div Pf	110½	...
National Express (165)	191	+6
OIS Intl Inspection (50)	52	...
Prime People Warrants	1¼	...
Second Consolidated Tst	93	−2
Tadpole Technology (65)	179	+7
Tepnel Diagnostics (120)	195	...
Wetherspoon (J.D) (160)	230	+3

RIGHTS ISSUES

Hilclare n/p (35)	3	...
Learmonth & Burchett n/p	25	−2
Lourho n/p (85)	½	...
Melville n/p (5)	½	...
Property Trust p/p (25)	16	+1
Regal Hotel n/p (2)	1½	...

FAINT hopes that today's meeting of the Bundesbank will sanction a cut of half a point in German interest rates provided government securities with a boost.

Prices recovered after an initial fall prompted by remarks by Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank president, that the main thrust of German economic policy was to fight inflation.

Dealers remain sceptical about a cut in German rates, but prices in the bond market made the most of the speculation. In the futures market, the Long Gilt opened nine ticks lower at £100½ before rallying to finish 17 ticks better at £101[5]/[16] as 23,000 contracts were completed.

At the longer end of the cash market, Treasury 9 per cent 2012 rose six ticks to £101[29]/[32], in shorts, Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 firmed three ticks to £109[21]/[32].

1992 High	1992 Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int Yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
100	95⅛	Fund 6% 1993	99¹⁵/₁₆		6.02	6.50
100¹⁵/₁₆	97¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 8½% 1993	100⅛		8.34	6.91
101¹⁵/₁₆	99⅛	Treas 10⅜ 1993	102⅛		9.91	6.83
104¹⁵/₁₆	100¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 12½% 1993	103⅛		12.12	6.53
107⅛	103¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 13½% 1993	106⅛	− ⅛	12.68	6.57
102¹⁵/₁₆	98⅛	Treas 8½% 1994	102¹⁵/₁₆†		8.33	6.52
104¹⁵/₁₆	96⅛	Treas 9% 1994	103⅛		8.66	6.74
105¹⁵/₁₆	98¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 10% 1994	104¹⁵/₁₆	− ⅛	9.57	6.67
110⅛	103⅛	Exch 12½% 1994	108⅛		11.51	6.78
110⅛	103¹⁵/₁₆	Exch 13½% 1994	108⅛	− ⅛	12.46	6.69
110⅛	104¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 14½% 1994	108⅛	− ⅛	13.36	6.70
95⅛	88⅛	Gas 3% 1990-95	94		3.19	5.72
109⅛	99⅛	Exch 10½% 1995	107¹⁵/₁₆		9.53	6.90
111⅛	102¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 12% 1995	109⅛ †		10.95	6.91
116⅛	106⅛	Treas 13½% 1995	114¹⁵/₁₆	− ⅛	11.32	6.98
106⅛	96⅛	Treas 9% 1992-96	100¹⁵/₁₆†		8.99	7.07
110¹⁵/₁₆	98¹⁵/₁₆	Conv 10% 1996	109⅛	− ⅛	9.16	7.23
119⅛	108	Exch 13½% 1996	117⅛	− ⅛	11.31	7.40
119¹⁵/₁₆	109¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 14% 1996	117⅛ †	− ⅛	11.88	7.33
125⅛	113¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 15½% 1998	123	− ⅛	12.47	7.33
112⅛	100¹⁵/₁₆	Exch 10½% 1997	110¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	9.46	7.36
121¹⁵/₁₆	109⅛	Treas 13½% 1997	119¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	11.06	7.49
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
107⅛	94	Treas 8½% 1997	105¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	8.28	7.28
131⅛	117⅛	Exch 13% 1997	129⅛	+ ⅛	11.61	7.65
99⅛	86⅛	Treas 6½% 1995-98	97¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	6.89	7.25
111⅛	97⅛	Exch 9½% 1998	109¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	8.89	7.61
121⅛	107¹⁵/₁₆	Exch 12% 1998	119⅛	+ ⅛	10.07	7.87
137⅛	120⅛	Treas 15½% 1998	134¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	11.50	7.51
111⅛	97⅛	Treas 9½% 1999	109¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	8.71	7.60
115⅛	102¹⁵/₁₆	Conv 10½% 1999	113⅛	+ ⅛	9.06	7.34
116⅛	101¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 10½% 1999	113¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	9.22	7.70
123⅛	109⅛	Exch 12½% 1999	120¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	10.14	7.95
109⅛	94⅛	Conv 9% 2000	106¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	8.49	7.74
128⅛	114¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 13% 2000	126¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	10.39	8.25
113⅛	99¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 10% 2001	110¹⁵/₁₆	+ ⅛	9.02	8.14
128⅛	115¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 14% 1998-01	126⅛	+ ⅛	11.10	7.91
LONGS (over 15 years)						
99¹⁵/₁₆	85⅛	Treas 8% 2002-06	98⅛	− ⅛	8.13	8.20
100¹⁵/₁₆	89⅛	Treas 8½% 2007	99¹⁵/₁₆	− ⅛	8.59	8.62
122⅛	110¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120¹⁵/₁₆†	+ ⅛	9.77	8.69
104¹⁵/₁₆	93¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 9% 2008	103¹⁵/₁₆		8.75	8.65
126¹⁵/₁₆	123¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 13½% 2004-08	125⅜	+ ⅛	10.11	8.73
99⅛	85⅛	Treas 8% 2009	93⅜		8.53	8.70
103⅛	93¹⁵/₁₆	Conv 9% 2011	102⅛†	+ ⅛	8.82	8.76
72⅛	62⅛	Treas 5½% 2008-12	71⅛	+ ⅛	7.70	8.51
92⅛	81¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 7½% 2012-15	90¹⁵/₁₆†	+ ⅛	8.32	8.67
130¹⁵/₁₆	116¹⁵/₁₆	Exch 12% 2013-17	127⅛	+ ⅛	9.38	9.03
UNDATED						
28¹⁵/₁₆	24¹⁵/₁₆	Console 2½%	28⅛	+ ⅛	8.49	
39	34¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 3½%	38⅛	+ ⅛	8.87	
35	29¹⁵/₁₆	Treas 3%	34⅛	+ ⅛	8.68	
63¹⁵/₁₆	58	Conv 5½%	61⅞	+ ⅛	8.67	
45⅛	39⅛	Consols 4%	44⅛ †	+ ⅛	8.91	
40⅛	35⅛	War Ln 3½%	39⅛	+ ⅛	8.87	
INDEX-LINKED						
152⅛	122⅛	Treas IL 2% 1994	137⅛	+ ⅛	0.08	1.89
197⅛	176⅛	Treas IL 2% 1996	192⅞	+ ⅛	1.99	2.68
162⅛	139⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2001	159⅛	+ ⅛	1.99	2.68
159⅛	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	156	+ ⅛	2.24	2.57
162⅛	137⅛	Treas IL 2% 2006	160⅛	+ ⅛	2.36	2.63
147⅛	134⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2009	145⅛	+ ⅛	2.49	2.71
152⅛	128⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2011	150⅛	+ ⅛	2.65	2.83
126⅛	106⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2013	123⅛	+ ⅛	2.63	2.83
135⅛	112⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2016	131			

هكذا من الأصل

Life stirs in the property market

The commercial property market appears to be stabilising, but at a horrifyingly low level. Good quality properties have been sold by Stanhope and Chesterfield on 10 per cent yields and both the latter and Wimpey have sold at heavy discounts to what they thought were reasonable valuations at the end of 1991. London & Provincial Shop reckons values may have fallen by 10 per cent since its June 1992 valuation. There is still more good news than bad in this. Sales are at least being made, albeit often to existing tenants or bargain-hunting overseas investors. For let properties, the damage can therefore be assessed, giving investors and bankers some hard evidence on which to base decisions, instead of operating in an atmosphere of fear in which any kind of valuation was suspect.

As the latest receivership statistics confirm, banks do not want to force large amounts of property security on to the market if there is any hope of getting most of their money back by waiting for prices to improve. Indeed, their own actions, in holding back from insolvency proceedings, have helped to establish some kind of short-term floor to the market. Given the steepness of the continuing fall in valuations in the second half of last year, it would be premature to claim more. Even this limited success in stage one of the banks' damage limitation exercise has made them more inclined to commit themselves in stage two refinancings that offer ailing companies something more positive than the suspended animation of the living dead.

Evidence of this was provided yesterday by the loan extensions for Stanhope, which complemented the earlier, bigger, arrangement for Rosehaugh Stanhope Developments, and the efforts of Citibank to keep London & Provincial Shop afloat although its parent, Randsworth, rather like Rosehaugh, is in receivership. For banks' balance sheets, it is vital that the waiting game pays. Stanhope's Stuart Lipton is predicting that property prices and even rents should rise by the end of this year. We shall see. For now, the significance of his prediction is that a senior property figure should be confident enough to make it.

Defending the fort

The franc has proved surprisingly resilient in the ERM despite speculators' determination to see it devalued. Until recently, hard-nosed currency operators would have bet their life savings on a devaluation. They have been three times unlucky, and for any professional gambler, that is a bad streak. French interest rates, at over 9 per cent, are certainly incompatible with a stagnant economy on the point of deflation. Yet the French economy has proved one of Europe's most resilient and the purchasing power of the franc has hardly changed against the mark over the past five years. This hardly suggests its exchange value must fall.

The franc-mark parity has, however, a political priority to which economics is as peripheral as it is to dealers. Most speculators seem to have missed this point, underlined this week by Karl-Otto Pöhl, the former Bundesbank president, who claimed the ERM would be finished if France devalued. Beyond that, the franc's parity has become a symbol for what is left of European monetary stability and of the Bonn-Paris axis at the heart of the Community, especially given the continued uncertainty over the Maastricht treaty.

Speculators should not expect the two countries to let go of such a potent symbol without a fight. There are many tricks left in the book. The prospect of independence for the French central bank may have been discounted. A formal link between the two central banks, or a move to an even narrower ERM-band, would be the next in line for defence.

De Beers finds 1992 rough for diamonds as sales plummet

Colin Campbell says only the third dividend cut in 48 years will add woe to 12 months already beset by poor demand and smugglers

Diamond smugglers cost De Beers dear in 1992. They took advantage of the political turmoil and the late rains to set up armed camps in the Angolan diamond fields, and then systematically stole rough diamonds that otherwise would have been sold through the Central Selling Organisation, De Beers' marketing arm.

Yesterday, the CSO announced its worst annual rough diamond sales figures since 1987. They showed that 1992 sales, at $3.417 billion, had fallen 13 per cent from the previous year's $3.927 billion.

The stock market thought, all things considered, that the setback was not too bad an achievement in a year of recession, and that diamonds had fared better than gold and platinum in 1992.

Had the rains not fallen in Angola and the river banks flooded in late September — preventing the smugglers extracting diamonds from the dried-up beds — the 1992 sales figures would have been even worse.

At times in the Angolan night, there were 50,000 illicit diggers in the fields, with their numbers growing by 500 a day.

A conservative estimate of how much was stolen suggests the equivalent of a large new mine coming into full production.

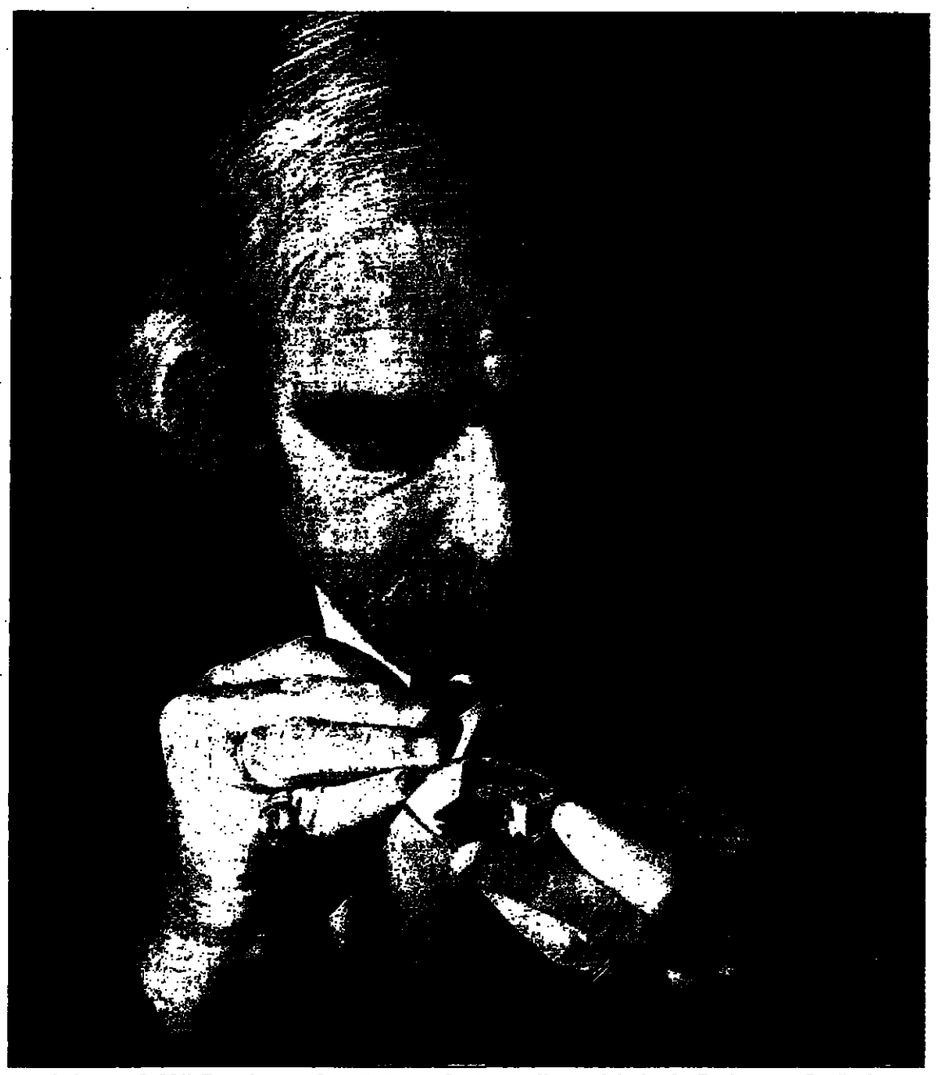
The CSO, in defence of its *raison d'etre*, and to demonstrate its commitment to the long-term stability of the world diamond industry, spent an estimated $200 million on the Antwerp market buying in various sizes of rough stones that had been spirited out of Angola. The costly buying-in compounded what had already been a tough time for the world diamond market.

But if 1992 was a year that De Beers would prefer to forget, and which it admits was "another year of testing trading conditions", there is more bad news just around the corner.

De Beers, as Julian Ogilvie Thompson, the chairman, starkly said in August, is set to cut its 1992 final dividend when year-end results are announced in March.

The group managed to hold the 1992 interim dividend at 25.1 cents a share, but after the August statement that "the current outlook would indicate a significant reduction in the final dividends" the market is braced for a 1992 final payment of 65 cents from 87 cents last time, making a reduced 90 cents (112 cents) for the year. Pre-tax profits could fall from $1.03 billion to $785 million. The dividend cut for the year will be the second in a decade, and only the third in 48 years.

When De Beers' balance sheet is published, the strains of having to finance a huge diamond stockpile during a year when recession damaged confidence will be registered in millions.



Kinder cut: Gabi Tolkowsky examines De Beers' Centenary diamond during its final stages of polishing

After a respectable outcome in 1990, when annual diamond sales reached $4.167 billion, compared with the peak 1988 year when sales were $4.172 billion, some levelling off in demand for rough diamonds had been expected.

However, six-monthly rough diamond sales have been in decline for three successive periods. They fell from $2.084 billion in the first half of 1991 to $1.843 billion in the second, eased again to $1.787 billion in the first half of 1992, and then fell further to $1.63 billion in the second.

Perversely, 1992 was still a solid year for retail diamonds. The Christmas over-the-counter sales of diamond jewellery in the all-important American market were reasonably strong, and final retail figures could show that another $39 billion was spent by the adoring on the adored in this sparkling fashion.

The American retail mood as 1993 breaks is reasonably firm, helped by interest rate factors and a sense of optimism on Wall Street. Japan, the second significant market for diamonds, is still nursing the bruises from a fallen Nikkei, and the retail market remains soft. However, the CSO increased its advertising budget to $164 million last year—equivalent to a daily spend of almost $450,000 — and since the Japanese market was one of the specific world areas targeted, stronger 1993 demand is a possibility.

The CSO, in its 63-year history, had lived through tough times before, and is well practised at matching demand with supply at its ten regular "sights".

But analysts are worried that the cost of having to finance diamond stocks — announced as $3.03 billion at December 31, 1991, and which had risen from $2.68 billion a year earlier — will have eaten seriously into De Beers' cash pile. The group's stocks at end-December 1992 could be found to have risen to $4 billion.

De Beers has undoubted financial strength in being able to fund stocks, and in September, the CSO partly eased this burden by triggering a clause in contracts with producers whereby contract deliveries were reduced by 25 per cent. There is no indication how long production quotas will last, but while they do, there will be a ripple effect on the producers themselves — including diamond mines in the De Beers group.

Nicky Oppenheimer, chairman of the CSO, says the Angolan problem has now diminished. The rains have fallen, covering the diggings and driving the illegal miners away, and there has been renewed political instability in Angola.

Those unconnected with the CSO confirm that Angolan diamond production is now virtually at a standstill because of the politicial turmoil, and many believe that Angola will not return to its former exalted status as a world producer of diamonds for a considerable number of years.

Mr Oppenheimer says that rough diamond prices — which the Central Selling Organisation has never reduced, and which were last raised by an average 5.5 per cent in March 1990 — are currently "firm".

Stocks in the cutting centres and bank borrowings are at reasonable levels, and in line with business activity. "The industry is well placed to take advantage of an economic improvement," Mr Oppenheimer adds.

But despite the CSO's soothing words, analysts remain sceptical about Russia's intentions with regard to the marketing of its own rough stones. The CSO formally says that it has a sales agreement with Russia in place, and the Russians have consistently said that the agreement is working well, and that they intend sticking to it.

But if Russia is just a passing stock market worry, there are more serious implications arising from Canada, where suggestions of diamond finds hit the headlines every day and where the pace of exploration activity is frantic. Even the good and the great mining groups (including De Beers, Australia's BHP group, and RTZ/Kennecott) have joined the diamond hunt. One day, somebody will turn up a diamond deposit that is economically viable. Should an eventual Canadian diamond mine be established by a party outside the CSO, then there will be tricky negotations to conclude.

After the Venetia mine was brought into production in South Africa last year, now is not the time to find yet more deposits. Indeed, De Beers is still holding on to the polished 273-carat Centenary diamond, which was cut over a three-year period by expert Gabi Tolkoswky. The stone is insured for about $100 million and serves as useful publicity tool.

In the high street, meanwhile, shoppers are still tending to look through windows rather than walk through shop doors, despite the eternal fascination of diamonds, and Hatton Garden shops are still littered with "sale" signs.

Jeremy Sinclair-Davies, of Anglo-Scottish, the diamond investment company, says retail demand for smaller stones fell by up to 30 per cent last year, and he does not expect an early recovery in 1993.

"One wants to be optimisitic, but in our heart of hearts we feel that this year will be on a par with last year. Demand for five-carat plus diamonds is firm, but the problem for smaller stones is that they are bought by the person in the street who cannot afford to buy in a recession."

Others believe 1993 will be a slightly stronger year for diamonds, but there has to be a greater feeling of job security, and consumer confidence has to improve.

Meanwhile, demand for, and the sale of, industrial rather than gem stones continues to top sales by a factor of four. Science continues to develop substitutes, and industrial applications continue to widen.

Diamonds, as the natty advertising slogan runs, may be forever and the original Greek word *adamas*, meaning unconquerable, has some appeal, but after such a 1992 CSO sales setback, it could be a while before the declining sales trend is firmly arrested.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

From the East to NatWest

ONE of the two highest ranking non-Japanese executives in Nomura worldwide — the president of Nomura International — resigned on Tuesday, after four years with the firm, to join NatWest Markets, the corporate and investment banking arm of NatWest. John Howland-Jackson, 43, will work with chief executive Martin Owen and senior managing director Roger Byatt. Howland-Jackson will similarly carry the title of senior managing director. He previously worked for Chemical Bank, Kleinwort Benson and Morgan Guaranty and established a reputation for developing national and international corporate finance business. "This completes the new senior management structure that I announced in November and we very much look forward to benefiting from John's extraordinarily wide-ranging and relevant experience," says Owen.

Fun running

THE Korean Research Institute has been studying the causes of the chronic stress at work and has published a *Stress Management Workbook*. It advises Koreans to ask favours and not feel burdened for asking, to ask questions if they have doubts, not to make promises they cannot keep, not to be obsessed with perfection, to tell people if they feel overburdened, and to be pleased if subordinates surpass them in ability. Other tips include helping others — and laughing, at least occasionally. Laughter says the book is "internal jogging".



Halfway home

AFTER serving 22 months of a jail sentence for fraud, Michael Milken appears to have solved one of his problems — finding a job. Milken, who is currently living in a halfway house rehabilitation centre in Los Angeles, has found work as a $1,300 a week legal researcher for Richard Sandler, his old friend and former lawyer, of US law firm Victor & Sandler. As a condition of his release, Milken had to get a job and hand over 25 per cent of his earnings to the halfway house. Being under a strict curfew from 6pm to 6am does not seem to be interfering with his employment. "I'm going to go to work, I'm going to go to lunch, I'm going to go to dinner and then I'm going to come back here," he said. Doubtless, he will find plenty to do in the evenings, too — not least, working out how to spend the estimated $600 million fortune he still retains.

It's a blowout

NOT everyone, thankfully, is quite so earnest in their approach to the single European market. Simon Rostron, managing director of Rostron Parry, a financial PR firm, is launching a company called Lunch Sans Frontières. "We will be organising financial lunches in unusual venues for people who feel the big promotional party is too much but for whom the press release is not quite enough," he says. "We will start off in London and then organise lunches abroad for companies who want to introduce themselves to Europe." Whoever said PR men exist only to arrange lunches between people who want to have lunch with each other anyway?

Avant-ski

TEAMS across London are limbering up for the annual Lambert Smith Hampton ski race, which takes place in Courmayeur, Italy, on January 23. Originally restricted to surveyors, it is now open to all comers, provided they work in the property sector. The race, in which three-man teams plunge down a steep slalom course, is preceded by a cocktail party designed to sabotage the more serious competitors. City surveyors Gooch and Wagstaff are included in this category. "They are pretty intense and usually try to win," says one source, "but people will spike their drinks."

CAROL LEONARD

Working together for recovery

From Mr A. P. Scott

Sir, Mr Richard Dale (Business Letters, January 4) rightly suggests that the way to secure the UK's manufacturing competitiveness is to produce goods at a price and of a quality demanded by the customer. However, he is wrong to conclude that the CBI is looking to others to provide solutions to bridge the UK's performance gap with its principal competitors.

The report of the CBI's National Manufacturing Council, *Making it in Britain*" clearly identified the challenge facing UK manufacturing in closing this performance gap. Considerable strides were made during the 1980s in improving productivity, investing in training and R&D and securing export business, but our competitors were not standing still.

We have some excellent examples of world class companies in the UK. Sadly, we do not have them in sufficient numbers and much of the responsibility for tackling this situation rests fairly and squarely with industry itself. The National Manufacturing Council acknowledges this and has identified the spread of best practice within industry as one of its foremost tasks.

However, industry does not operate in a vacuum. Government plays a key role in shaping the economic climate and it is in this context that industry needs to work in partnership with government, and yes the Treasury, to secure the conditions conducive for recovery.

Yours faithfully,
A. P. SCOTT
(Director, Manufacturing Industries),
Confederation of British Industry,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street, WC1.

Buying houses in the seller's market

From Mr J. G. Jowett

Sir, Mr Anatole Kaletsky in his predictions that house prices must rise in 1993 (January 4) has, like other forecasters, ignored the basic economic laws of supply and demand. The supply of houses has exceeded demand for nearly four years and the gap would appear to be widening rather than narrowing. Whilst that gap remains, it is impossible for prices to rise and it must be many years before this can happen.

The fact that property has become cheap relative to average earnings is irrelevant and merely reflects the buyers' ability to pay the price, should they want to buy. At the moment, there are more people who want to sell rather than buy.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. JOWETT
(Chartered Accountant),
Sparrows,
North Street,
Westbourne,
Emsworth, Hampshire.

Cut-price food

From Mr K. C. Bass

Sir, Welcome as the news of discounts on food items by Sainsbury and Tesco (December 31) is to consumers, the price cuts need to be kept in perspective. Both food retailers are reducing the prices of only about 5 per cent of the number of food items in their stores.

Yours faithfully,
K. C. BASS,
5 Arlington,
Woodside Park, N12.

Medical inflation and the rising cost of subscriptions

From Mr J. A. Bulpitt

Sir, Mr Dawson (Letters, December 26) should be happy that his Bupa subscription has gone up by a mere 19 per cent.

The PPP subscription for my 22-year-old daughter has risen by 31 per cent. As PPP's corporate schemes have increased by less than 10 per cent it is clear who is paying for medical inflation.

Fortunately, however, I have discovered that there are good alternatives to Bupa and PPP.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. BULPITT,
28 Brockwell,
Oakley, Bedfordshire.

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

INVITATION TO TENDER NO 92.11
Developers - Investors - Designers

MARSEILLE AMENAGEMENT
23 rue Vacon - 13001 Marseille
Tel: 91.13.92.00 - Fax 91.13.92.48

ZAC DE LA VALENTINE
(La Valentine Development Area)

Terrains de la Ravelle in Marseille (13011), France.

MARSEILLE AMENAGEMENT, appointed City of Marseille development agency for the ZAC de la Valentine (La Valentine Development Area), invites tenders from groupings of developers, investors and designers with a view to developing an area for artisans and industry, offices and services, hotels and shopping developments (excluding large food stores) on an assembly of sites of around 43000 m²

The mean land occupancy ratio (COS) is 0.5

This new economic zone will benefit from the exceptional quality of the Ravelle site in the centre of the ZAC, which is ideally served by the A.50 motorway and the RD4 main road, which is a wooded and open site. The development will complete the existing economic and commercial fabric in the la Valentine Development area.

The Tender Rules can be obtained free of charges from the offices of Marseille Amenagement, 23 rue Vacon, 13001 Marseille, France.

The tender file will be available for consultation from January 11th 1993 at the above address (between 9am - 12 noon and 2 pm and 5pm). A copy may be obtained against a deposit of FF600 which will only be refunded if tenderers submit in accordance with the Tender Rules.

The tender file may also be sent to a given address by registered post subject to receipt of postage stamps to the value of FF49 (+FF600 for the tender file) and a written request by registered letter received before March 15, 1993 by Marseille Amenagement.

Limit date for submission of tenders: April 15th, 1993 at midday.

Tenders must be made out in 3 copies + 2 sheets of description as per the Tender Rules, and either presented to the offices of Marseille Amenagement against notice of receipt or sent by registered post or Chronopost to arrive before the limit date and time.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %

ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL.
0345 717373

Mastertrust	101.30	108.30	- 1.30	1.74
International	73.58	78.27	- 1.28	1.30
Dividend Gth	53.72	56.69	+ 0.19	5.29
Global Gth Acc	58.61	62.35	+ 0.27	3.19
Ethical Growth	60.17	64.01	+ 0.01	3.62
High Inc Equity	141.00	150.00	- 0.50	5.67
Worldwide Bond	248.30	263.10	- 3.90	4.75
Gilts Fixed Int	127.10	134.70	- 0.30	7.05

ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QU.
0224 633070.
Dealing: 0800 833558
30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DQ.
071 374 6801

Amer Inc Gth	40.89	42.93	- 0.47	1.97
European	70.80	75.04	- 0.73	...
European Inc	71.50	75.84	- 0.92	1.76
Exempt	864.30	892.10	- 6.50	3.43
Extra Inc	39.58	42.97	- 0.05	5.06
F East Emerg Ec	70.23	75.50	- 1.01	0.85

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS
Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL.
0793 514514.
Dealing: 0793 510366

High Inc	364.50	378.90	+ 1.60	4.90
Equity Inc	198.00	211.60	+ 0.90	4.84
High Yield	219.70	234.80	+ 0.60	4.66
Balanced	607.30	649.20	+ 0.50	3.16
American Inc	43.68	46.68	- 0.20	3.59
Wld Asset Val	34.27	36.63	- 0.11	1.67
Jersey	130.40	138.60	+ 1.10	0.01
Scts of Am	398.00	423.50	+ 2.50	0.35

AXA EQUITY & LAW
St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry
CV1 1HZ.
0203 553231

UK Growth Acc	303.50	323.10	- 3.40	3.03
-do- Inc	217.70	231.70	- 2.40	3.03
Higher Inc Acc	539.70	560.50	- 2.90	4.27
-do- Inc	336.10	347.00	- 1.80	4.27
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	167.50	176.90	- 0.50	7.20
-do- Inc	90.54	95.31	- 0.32	7.20
Nth America	253.90	272.30	- 3.50	...
Far East	233.10	248.00	- 4.70	3.06
Europe	194.40	206.80	- 4.00	1.28
General Inc	407.30	433.30	- 5.30	2.67
-do- Acc	443.50	471.90	- 5.60	2.67
Brit Excell	o1.89	65.84	- 0.54	3.07
Brit Fndmtls Inc	62.37	66.36	- 0.09	4.98
Brit Fndmtls Acc	79.49	84.54	- 0.11	4.95
Global Opps	83.32	87.37	- 1.30	0.02

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
Gresham Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15.
081 534 5544

Capital	104.80	112.30	- 0.80	3.27
Euro Gth Inc	102.60	108.60	- 1.60	1.37
Extra Inc	98.46	105.30	- 0.20	5.79
General	229.90	245.90	- 1.40	3.55
Gilt Fxd Inc	96.21	98.17	- 0.09	9.08
Income	450.10	481.40	+ 0.30	5.19

BARING FUND MANAGERS
PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ.
081 658 9000

American Gth	87.18	92.57	- 1.92	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	115.70	123.40	- 2.60	...
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	48.10	51.44†	+ 0.07	7.60
Eastern	157.70	168.60	- 4.80	1.70
Equity Income	72.00	76.59	- 0.11	6.70
European Gth	206.20	219.20	- 3.50	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	138.10	146.30	- 1.60	1.50
Exempt	78.70	80.90	- 0.24	3.80
German Growth	88.84	92.13	- 0.80	0.80
Global Growth	99.03	105.80†	- 1.80	...
Japan Growth	146.30	156.90	- 4.20	...
Japan Sunrise	120.10	128.30	- 3.30	...
Portfolio	116.90	118.00	- 1.20	3.40
-do- Acc	194.90	208.80	- 2.30	3.40
UK Growth	69.58	74.62	+ 0.03	3.20
UK Smaller Cos	67.33	72.00	+ 0.78	2.00
Select Managers	58.11	62.27	- 0.57	2.10

BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD
140 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA.
041 332 3132

Balan Gth Acc	98.51	105.36	- 0.78	2.40
-do- Inc	90.23	96.50	- 0.71	2.40
Global Bond	27.57	29.18†	- 0.32	5.11
High Yield Acc	48.74	52.13	- 0.36	5.57
-do- Inc	35.73	38.21†	- 0.26	5.57
Smlr Cos Acc	75.21	80.44	+ 0.51	2.61
-do- Inc	69.56	74.39	+ 0.47	2.61
Amer Gth Acc	51.91	55.51	- 1.02	0.16
-do- Inc	50.94	54.48	- 1.00	0.16
Euro Gth Acc	87.51	93.59	- 1.09	2.09
-do- Inc	86.70	92.73	- 1.08	2.09
Managed P folio	31.08	33.24	- 0.31	...
Pacific Growth	78.97	84.49	- 1.62	1.85
Intl Spec Opps	75.40	80.65	- 0.62	1.85

BROWN SHIPLEY
91/7 Pennymount Rd, Haywards Heath.
0444 458144

Financial	103.90	110.70	...	4.01
Smaller Cos Acc	222.40	236.80	+ 4.40	...
Smaller Cos Inc	130.20	138.70	+ 2.60	1.66
High Inc	68.44	72.89	+ 0.01	6.45
Income	146.60	124.20	+ 0.20	4.67
Managed P folio Inc	68.44	98.48	+ 0.42	5.34
-do- Acc	156.30	166.30	- 0.60	...
North American	100.70	107.20†	- 2.70	0.20
Orient	92.19	99.22	- 1.58	...
Recovery	31.90	34.52†	+ 0.32	3.45
German	36.79	39.36	+ 0.03	0.10
Intl Recov	30.45	32.43	- 0.58	0.34
European Inc	20.42	22.00	- 0.24	0.51
Conv General	17.80	19.04†	+ 0.10	8.10

BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT
Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London
EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542.
Dealing: 071 247 7474

Fellowship Tst	58.30	62.24	- 0.43	1.98
-do- Acc	65.23	69.40	- 0.48	1.59
Income Fund S	201.40	214.30	- 0.40	4.30
-do- Acc	457.90	487.20	- 0.90	4.30
Inv Portfolio	65.57	69.92	- 0.43	2.41
-do- Acc	72.33	74.96	- 0.49	2.41
Smaller Cos	103.40	110.10†	- 0.20	2.47
-do- Acc	134.20	132.30†	- 0.20	2.47
High Inc P folio	56.37	58.42	- 0.12	5.01

BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL.
071 488 7216

Stn Gilt Fxd Int	67.93	68.84	+ 0.04	6.04

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
PO Box 185, Manchester M60 0AFL.
061 837 5060

Enviro	127.30	135.80†	- 0.10	1.72
UK Growth	139.80	148.90	- 1.10	2.34
UK Income	116.90	124.40	- 0.20	4.85

CANNON FUND MANAGERS
1 Dingwall Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB.
081 902 9876

TE Asia	72.02	77.03	- 0.56	1.07
Growth	43.56	46.34†	- 0.32	3.30
Income	49.72	52.89†	- 0.22	4.90
Far East	37.91	40.54	- 0.84	0.36
North American	28.94	84.41	- 1.01	0.01
Global	76.75	82.05	- 1.05	1.19
European	54.84	64.00	- 0.66	1.25
Japan	80.27	85.85	- 1.66	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	54.36	57.61	- 1.02	7.72
UK Cap Gwth	74.92	80.13	+ 0.11	2.62

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF.
Enquiries: 061 236 5685.
Dealing: 061 236 5362

Capability Trusts				
American Gen	129.80	131.80	- 2.20	0.11
-do-Acc	131.80	140.00	- 2.00	0.11
European	61.04	64.67	- 0.92	1.09
-do-Acc	63.27	67.03	- 0.96	1.09
Far East Gen	44.77	47.63	- 0.77	...
-do-Acc	44.27	47.63	- 0.77	...
Gilts/Fxd Int	244.50	252.50	- 2.80	1.63
-do-Acc	245.40	261.10	- 3.20	1.63
Growth	361.90	387.10	- 3.10	2.62
-do-Acc	615.40	658.20	- 5.30	2.62
Income Growth	357.70	380.60	+ 0.70	4.14
-do-Acc	608.00	497.50	+ 0.80	4.14
Master Portfolio	90110	93134.9	-106.0	3.11
-do-Acc	10395.0	10744.0	-122.0	3.11
Special Sits	82.02	87.29†	- 0.49	2.59
-do-Acc	96.00	102.13	- 0.57	2.59
Exempt Rapid				
High Yield	1136.0	1172.0	- 7.00	4.79
-do-Acc	1316.0	1357.0	- 8.00	4.79

CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU.
071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055

American Index	183.90	195.60	- 1.20	1.98
Capital	512.50	546.90	- 2.40	2.57
Eurotrack 100	120.30	127.70	- 1.00	1.62
Euro Gth	71.61	76.59†	- 0.57	2.06
Far East Growth	72.14	76.99†	- 0.89	0.55
Global Bond	21.53	22.69†	- 0.17	7.00
Hong Kong	62.17	66.34	- 0.59	0.76
Income	477.90	510.00	- 1.10	4.89
Intl Growth	94.83	99.15	- 0.95	1.25
Japan Growth	186.40	198.90	- 2.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	33.27	35.36	- 0.34	...
Japan Index	56.03	59.79	- 1.06	0.40
Nth American	401.40	428.30	- 3.40	1.05
Smllr Cos Gth	48.44	48.49	- 0.65	...
The Peoples Rd	105.00	110.80†	- 0.70	2.57
Tiger Index	123.40	131.60	- 0.90	1.08
Trade Index	94.08	100.40	+ 0.40	3.20
UK Index	118.30	126.00†	- 0.70	3.42

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
16 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN.
071 606 0788

American P folio	77.61	82.86	- 0.45	1.00
European P folio	64.46	68.58	- 0.21	1.38
Japanese P folio	44.88	47.77	- 1.16	...
Pacific P folio	78.79	84.23	- 1.84	2.40
Cazenove P folio	64.77	69.29†	- 0.05	3.00
UK Income Gth	59.20	63.47	+ 0.15	5.03

CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ.
071 588 1815

Investments Fd	559.95	565.60	...	5.27
Fixed Int	149.10	149.85	...	9.68
Deposit	7.15	...	...	...

CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND
2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ.
071 588 1815

Income	558.09	559.52	...	5.31
-do-Acc	2130.3	2145.0	...	...
Deposit	7.00	...	...	...
Fixed Int Inc	121.35	122.59	...	9.34
-do-Acc	154.97	155.10	...	...

CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST
24 Monument Street, London Bridge, SE1.
071 487 5466

City Fin Assets	60.43	63.61	- 0.16	2.23
Beckman Intl	24.87	70.02	- 0.89	5.05
Friars Hse Inc	169.58	181.49†	- 1.87	6.79
Friars Stn Cap	246.31	263.55	+ 4.06	2.82

COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon
CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222.
Dealing: 081 686 9815

American Gth	101.83	108.33	- 2.62	0.24
European Gth	94.65	99.86	- 1.86	1.79
Far East Gth	82.88	88.17	- 2.53	0.21
Japan Gth Acc	30.87	32.84	- 0.66	...
Managed	57.97	61.68	- 0.74	3.23
-do-Acc	60.94	74.40	- 0.86	3.23
Mthly Inc Plus	44.94	47.81	- 0.28	8.91
Smaller Cos	29.40	31.28	+ 0.15	2.66
-do-Acc	32.35	34.41	+ 0.16	2.66
UK General	66.38	70.81†	- 0.94	3.05
-do-Acc	70.85	75.61	- 1.13	3.05
Wrldw Bd	59.56	63.36	- 0.93	6.17
-do-Acc	74.16	79.40	- 1.17	6.17
Wrldw Sp Sits	47.81	51.13†	- 0.81	0.33
Quilter General	118.46	126.02	- 1.86	2.49
-do-Acc	130.38	138.70	- 1.13	2.49
Quilter Income	85.73	91.20†	- 0.35	4.29
-do-Acc	105.64	112.38	- 0.44	4.29
Quilter Intl	113.68	120.94	- 2.39	0.35
-do-Acc	115.25	122.61	- 2.43	0.35
Quilter UK Spec	65.35	69.73	- 0.29	3.23
-do-Acc	86.72	92.26	- 0.38	3.23

CU Prestige Fund Management

Fin Property	91.36	97.09	- 0.35	3.29
Fixed Curncy	38.93	41.43	+ 0.39	7.85
-do-Acc	99.09	106.27	+ 0.87	7.85
Equity Inc	137.98	146.79	- 0.83	4.33
-do-Acc	435.80	463.40	- 2.61	4.33
High Yield	109.59	116.59†	- 0.47	8.44
Int Equity	61.46	65.36	- 0.26	0.10
Preference	44.40	47.24†	+ 0.04	9.52
PPT Europe	224.63	238.97	+ 0.21	0.52
PPT Global Bond	76.49	81.37	- 1.49	4.45
PPT Gold Com	42.56	45.28	- 0.75	...
PPT Thai	51.52	54.81	- 0.34	...
PPT Hong Kong	82.86	88.15	- 1.68	...
PPT Japan	84.13	89.50	- 2.46	...
PPT N Amer	137.54	146.32	- 3.49	...
PPT S'pore Mly	92.81	98.73	- 2.87	...
PPT UK	113.16	120.40	- 1.58	1.59
PPT Cash	90.51	90.51	+ 0.01	5.24

EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS
Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ.
0242 577 955

Oriental Op Acc	64.42	68.53	- 1.33	1.16
Japanese Acc	43.70	46.49	- 1.19	...
UK Balncd Inc	120.00	127.70†	- 0.50	2.51
-do-Acc	143.00	149.00†	- 0.60	2.51
UK Growth Acc	198.30	210.90	- 0.60	2.29
UK High Inc	125.90	133.90	- 0.50	7.30
-do-Acc	168.60	158.10	- 0.60	7.30
N American Acc	105.70	112.40	- 2.80	0.35
European Acc	134.80	143.40	- 1.80	0.49
UK Fxd Fn Inc	59.20	62.82†	- 0.11	9.77
-do-Acc	94.26	100.00†	- 0.20	9.77
Intl Sp Sits Acc	41.27	43.90	- 1.13	0.26
Environmntl Opp	69.20	73.61	- 0.23	1.51

EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace,
Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000

American	101.20	107.50	- 1.60	...
UK Smllr Cos	143.30	172.50	+ 0.30	1.44
Eurofund	34.34	36.19†	+ 0.14	1.11
Mngd Exempt	159.10	165.80	+ 1.30	3.17
Growth Inc	210.40	223.60	- 0.50	4.03
High Dist	131.00	139.30	- 0.40	6.26
International	298.00	316.60	- 1.20	1.03
Intl Income	72.83	77.75†	- 0.18	3.34
Pacific	48.93	51.99	- 0.13	0.58
Smllr Jap Cos	50.12	53.25†	- 0.48	...
Tokyo	148.30	157.70	- 1.80	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %

Japan Exempt	83.72	88.02	- 0.42	0.58
Sm Jap Exempt	427.60	439.30	- 2.00	0.11

ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT
41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU.
071 373 7261

Endurance	158.40	168.50	...	1.24

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
Wilton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW.
0296 431480

Pelican	101.84	107.20	+ 0.32	3.86
High Income	112.85	118.79	+ 0.68	5.31
Tst of Inv Tsts	127.34	134.04	+ 0.35	2.90
Special Sits	78.38	82.51	+ 0.83	3.64
North American	102.57	108.18	- 0.19	1.05
Far Eastern	187.06	196.91	- 1.07	1.64
Intl Growth	82.92	87.28	+ 2.53	1.58
European	87.09	91.69	- 0.41	2.26
Smaller Cos	62.15	65.42†	+ 0.50	2.72

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD
Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge
TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181

America	204.20	215.30	- 4.40	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	6.80
European Tst	96.84	103.03	- 0.80	...

FOREIGN & COLONIAL
8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London
EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000

European	82.36	87.34	- 1.21	0.92
Far Eastern	104.00	111.80	- 2.40	...
Gents Internat	78.94	84.34†	- 1.76	3.21
UK Growth	87.30	93.37†	- 1.11	0 14
UK Income	95.18	101.80	- 0.60	6.36
US Smaller Cos	204.30	218.50	- 5.40	...

FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT
155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XT.
071 374 4100

Am Smllr Co	407.30	435.50	- 7.50	...
-do-Acc	416.10	444.90	- 7.60	...
Capital	261.20	279.30	- 1.30	2.56
-do-Acc	361.10	386.10	- 1.80	2.56
Cornhill Smllr Cos	40.38	43.43	- 0.66	1.86
-do-Acc	41.38	44.94	- 0.67	1.86
Convertible	103.50	110.00†	- 0.30	6.79
-do-Acc	190.80	202.90†	- 0.30	6.79
European	89.64	92.68	- 1.33	1.13
-do-Acc	89.64	95.97	- 1.38	1.13
Extra Income	266.40	283.30	+ 1.10	4.88
-do-Acc	367.10	390.40	+ 1.50	4.88
Financial	90.77	96.55	- 0.86	0.92
-do-Acc	94.46	100.40	- 0.90	0.92
Health Fund Inc	127.30	136.00	- 3.20	...
-do-Acc	127.30	136.00	- 3.20	...
Income Tst	166.10	176.80	- 0.10	4.49
-do-Acc	231.80	246.70†	- 0.10	4.49
Intl Growth	286.90	305.40	- 5.30	...
-do-Acc	318.50	340.30	- 6.00	...
Japan Gen	120.40	128.10	- 3.20	...
-do-Acc	121.30	130.40	- 3.20	...
Mnthly P folio Inc	83.95	88.36	- 0.38	1.95
-do-Acc	91.34	96.16	- 0.41	1.95
Monthly Income	132.10	140.50†	- 0.80	5.07
Recovery	200.80	228.50	- 1.80	0.83
-do-Acc	308.90	326.90†	- 2.50	0.83
Gilt Gth Tst	59.87	61.57	- 0.32	5.93
-do-Acc	78.16	77.50	- 0.37	7.47

FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SR.
Dealing: 0722 413122
Administration: 0722 411622

Equity Dist	337.97	359.54	- 2.18	2.89
-do-Acc	682.58	725.94	- 4.40	2.89
Euro Gth Dist	95.87	99.86	- 1.03	1.15
-do-Acc	96.67	102.84	- 1.03	1.15
Fixed Int Dist	126.49†	133.79†	- 0.22	6.93
-do-Acc	210.37	222.52†	- 0.37	6.93
Intl Gth Dist	67.06	71.34†	- 1.34	0.82
-do-Acc	67.06	71.34†	- 1.34	0.82
Nth Amer Dist	156.09	165.62†	- 4.54	0.72
-do-Acc	169.09	179.48†	- 4.92	0.72
Pac Basin Dist	192.16	204.43†	- 4.25	0.42
-do-Acc	192.16	207.69†	- 4.25	0.42
Stewardship Dist	273.18	290.62	+ 1.85	2.09
-do-Acc	323.31	343.84	+ 2.32	2.09
Stwd Inc Dist	55.43	58.96	+ 0.26	4.31
-do-Acc	67.59	71.89	+ 0.12	4.31
M Am Fund Dist	97.13	92.66†	- 2.17	0.08
-do-Acc	92.22	98.11†	- 2.25	0.05

GT UNIT MANAGERS
8th Floor, 5 Eastcheap Sq, London EC3M 1NX. 071 283 2575. Dealing: 071 626 9431

Am Sp Sits	132.60	142.20	- 2.70	...
European	358.10	380.00	- 4.90	1.02
Far East General	174.30	185.30†	- 3.20	0.36
Emerging	86.95	91.54	- 1.13	0.06
Global Assets In	60.58	64.80	- 0.85	2.40
Global Assets Ac	63.48	67.90	- 0.88	2.36
Income	98.65	105.50	- 0.30	7.90
International	225.30	240.80	- 3.40	1.08
Intl Income	48.56	51.70†	- 1.17	4.99
Japan General	273.90	290.10	- 5.00	...
Smllr Cos Div	41.63	44.53†	+ 0.43	6.92
UK Capital Inc	143.80	153.80†	+ 0.40	4.54
UK Capital Acc	243.80	260.80	+ 0.70	4.67
UK Spec Sits	33.05	37.44	+ 0.20	4.88
US General	99.46	105.90	- 2.80	0.12
Wrldw Spec Sits	105.30	112.70	- 0.80	0.12

GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS
Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street,
London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212.
Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336

UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	42.49	45.44	- 0.43	1.21
Cash Trust	126.69	126.69	+ 0.02	6.96
Peace Inv Inc	95.14	102.03	- 0.80	4.38
-do-Acc	203.11	217.81	- 1.74	4.28
UK Smaller Cos	88.80	95.23	+ 0.67	2.09
Income Funds				
Preference Share	23.90	25.59	+ 0.36	8.76
High Inc	29.00	31.02	- 0.08	5.83
UK Equity Inc	121.41	129.85	- 0.75	4.64
Intl Fxd Int	27.79	28.82†	- 0.32	5.93
International Funds				
Gold Intl	85.70	89.73	- 1.41	1.94
Frontier Markets	36.62	39.27	- 0.22	0.53
Global Inc Gth	110.33	117.82	- 1.68	3.01
UK Intl	102.04	109.13†	- 0.45	1.42
Overseas Funds				
America	118.84	126.86	- 2.34	0.52
European	73.46	77.92	- 1.16	0.90
Euro Sel Opps	93.55	98.86	- 1.41	1.42
American Emerg	68.20	73.14†	- 0.92	...
Hong Kong	90.37	96.91	- 1.47	2.40
Japan	104.04	108.66	- 3.17	...
Pacific Growth	124.06	133.04	- 1.67	0.67

GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT
Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane,
London SE1 2HX. 071 378 7979.
Dealing: 071 588 0526

Intl Growth	108.11	115.63	- 1.94	0.95
American Gth	111.09	118.81	- 3.07	0.35
European Gth	60.62	65.04	- 0.98	0.82
German Horizn	43.20	45.14	- 0.86	0.92
Japan Gth	56.72	60.66	- 1.46	...
Pacific Inc	108.48	116.02	- 2.79	3.22
Pacific Strategy	88.87	95.05	- 1.57	...
UK Prog Inc	68.02	73.36	- 0.26	6.11
UK Portfolio Cos	46.13	49.34	- 0.35	2.00
UK Small Cos	39.72	42.48	+ 0.11	2.80

GRE UNIT MANAGERS
36 Fletcher Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE.
071 538 9666

Cash	129.40	129.40	...	7.07
Gilt Fixed	116.90	124.00	- 0.80	6.64
Growth Equity	280.00	299.10	- 0.30	2.48
Guardfill	410.40	438.40	- 1.00	2.44

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %

Income Trust	98.94	105.70†	- 0.70	4.81
International	137.20	146.50	- 3.00	0.17
Japan Trust	93.79	100.20	- 2.90	
Managed				
Nth American	232.60	248.50	- 5.80	0.41
Pacific	236.90	317.10	-10.20	
Prop Shares				
Small Cos				
European	298.40	319.20†	- 5.00	0.60

HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD
PO Box 690, Edinburgh EH15 1EW.
0800 538868

Global Adv Inc	32.96	34.94	- 0.30	1.77
-do-Acc	34.35	36.42	- 0.40	1.77
Inc Adv Inc	27.72	29.39†	- 0.20	4.25
-do-Acc	28.58	30.30†	- 0.20	4.25

HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS
5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex.
Enquiries: 0277 227300.
Dealing: 0277 698398

Canadian	57.93	62.06	- 0.74	0.55
Equity Income	105.00	111.70†	- 0.20	4.31
European	125.50	132.20	+ 0.60	1.56
Far Eastern	65.08	70.19	- 1.36	...
Japanese	101.40	107.90	- 3.10	...
North American	96.32	102.20†	- 3.00	0.20
Scandinavian	96.97	102.60	- 0.30	0.60
Smaller Cos	28.01	29.80	+ 0.32	2.79

HENDERSON
PO Box 2805, Brentwood, Essex CM19 1XT.
Enquiries: 0277 227300.
Dealing: 0277 234772

Amer Smaller	86.45	93.45	- 1.02	...
Asian Enterprise	102.35	109.82†	- 1.22	1.54
Australian	113.96	121.40	- 3.35	1.46
European	220.60	234.57	- 4.59	1.33
European Inc	62.15	65.74	- 0.88	3.07
Euro Spcl Co	104.52	111.65	- 0.69	1.42
Extra Income	240.10	255.40†	- 0.01	5.80
Family of Funds	63.77	68.10†	+ 0.18	1.94
Fixed Interest	53.11	56.79†	+ 0.34	8.91
Global Resour	69.11	74.18	- 1.12	1.76
High Inc	259.45	277.32	+ 0.31	4.84
Income Gth	219.44	233.70†	- 1.02	4.20
-do-Acc	253.22	288.10†	- 1.59	4.20
International	205.20	218.46	- 3.28	0.91
Japan Spc Sit	168.09	178.76	- 3.81	...
Japan	143.43	153.53	- 3.46	...
N Amer	218.29	232.47†	- 3.92	0.15
Pacific Smllr Cos	136.36	144.71	- 2.88	1.60
Prof Gilt	44.69	48.57	+ 0.01	9.57
Smaller Cos Dlr	142.94	152.79†	+ 2.02	5.28

هكذا من الأصل

Portfolio Plus

From your Portfolio Plus card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Mansfield	Breweries	
2	Bodker	Foods	
3	Wessex Water	Water	
4	Watmough	Paper,Print	
5	Warner Howard	Business Serv.	
6	Utd Newspapers	Newspapr,Pub	
7	Blywoors	Mining	
8	Morgan Chle	Industrial	
9	Farnell Elect	Electrical	
10	Hall Eng	Industrial	
11	Wheatman	Industrial	
12	Watson & Phil	Foods	
13	Cray Elect	Electrical	
14	Bespak	Industrial	
15	Dixons Grp	Drapery,Stes	
16	ACT Group	Drapery,Stes	
17	Driefontein	Mining	
18	Travis Perkins	Building,Rds	
19	Kloof	Mining	
20	Nurdin Peack	Foods	
21	Gencor	Mining	
22	Coats Viyella	Drapery,Stes	
23	Allied Irish	Banks,Disc	
24	Bedford (W)	Industrial	
25	Lambert	Shoes,Lth	
26	Cadbury-Schw	Foods	
27	Stanley Leisure	Leisure	
28	Caldbread Rby	Building,Rds	
29	AIM	Industrial	
30	Crown Eye	Drapery,Stes	
31	Admiral	Electrical	
32	Newman Tnks	Building,Rds	
33	Seton Health	Industrial	
34	Vosper Thorny	Industrial	
35	Brent Chems	Chems,Plas	
36	Tate & Lyle	Foods	
37	Macro 4	Electrical	
38	Sketchley	Business Serv	
39	Meyer Int	Building,Rds	
40	Bonsmead	Business Serv	

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Please take into account any minus signs

£1,000 MATCH THE SHARES

If you have ticked off your eighth share in our Match The Shares game today, claim your prize by telephoning 0254 53272 between 10.00am and 3.30pm (see the *Sunday Times* for full details)

Three winners equally share the Portfolio Plus prize of £2,000. Mr S O' Driscoll, Walsall, West Midlands; Mrs J McGarvie, Bournemouth and Mr F Marsh of Wimborne, Dorset.

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
9025	1920	RASP Dfd	9465	-125	...	...	9.2
260	201	RTP	265	+1	8.8	4.8	17.9
£112	9050	Rayer DB50	£105½	...	...	5.1	...
248	126	Rigden	183	...	9.5	8.3	11.0
154	115	Rmt Chems	154	+9	7.3	6.4	72.8
458	182	Rr Tin-Tech	458	...	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Grp	20	...	2.5	17.3	5.0
179	112	Canning (W)	131	...	7.2	7.4	10.5
646	321	Cannondale	608	+1	13.0	2.9	16.4
259	142	Crafts	259	+4	7.5	4.2	18.1
211	152	Hdlr & Everard	195	+3	8.8	5.7	15.7
16	7	Euro Colour	16	...	0.6	5.4	...
108	48	Evode	105	-1	3.5	4.6	...
265	173	Rotaprint (J)	265	...	...	3.0	14.2
227	155	Rotation	178	-17	7.8	5.0	12.5
13000	12500	Rotork	9875	-225	...	7.9	...
1410	975	RCI	1360	-24	55.0	6.6	26.8
660	494	Laporte	613	-16	18.9	4.1	16.5
528	138	Leigh	204	+3	7.8	5.1	16.6
280	11	MDM	16	+3	1.8	...	32
1130	1100	Mark Hydro	1525	+125	...	...	2.2
400	360	Paterson Zoch	375	+5	11.4	4.1	16.2
395	355	-do- 'A'	365	...	11.4	4.2	15.7
201	201	Pipex	283	+3	6.0	3.0	17.7
141	130	Perrott	141	+1	...	2.4	14.8
11	4½	Smiths Spnkr	7¾	...	...	...	...
456	338	Wardle Storey	456	+11	16.0	4.7	18.3
400	220	Wimbledon P	400	...	16.3	5.2	18.5
309	253	York Chem	280	...	...	2.5	19.8
273	214	Yule Catto	248	+4	5.4	3.9	15.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
533	343	ADT	480	-10	...	...	...
268	198	Adam & Harvey	260	...	11.0	7.4	9.7
122	53	Air London	78	+2	...	6.0	9.6
69	34	African Lakes	37	...	2.0	7.2	7.4
153	81	Asso Soc	150	...	4.9	3.6	10.6
108	60	BBP Grp	98	...	...	2.7	...
100	47	BMB Res	97	+1	1.9	12.8	6.0
285	208	BPP	268	...	6.9	3.4	15.1
280	178	Barbour Index	280	+10	7.2	3.6	19.7
376	315	BSkyB Int	330	+3	0.7	2.3	48.0
192	111	Bell Data Mgt	190	...	...	2.8	15.8
14	9	Brookscabin	12	...	...	...	...
168	58	Brooks Service	58	...	4.0	...	18.5
148	72	CBC Gp	100	...	2.4	3.0	11.5
240	202	Capita Group	240	+5	3.4	1.4	17.7
36	19	Casket Plc	34	...	0.5	2.0	12.8
365	200	Chelford	430	+5	...	7.5	27.3
181	61	Bankel	98	+4	4.3	5.3	9.2
248	152	Bagby Group	240	-3	6.4	3.6	18.1
48	25	Bethel Rwt	25	...	...	...	4.5
98	50	Sharpe & Fisher	68	-1	4.0	7.8	...
120	70	Sheffield Inst	123	+3	5.4	5.9	11.8
69	58	Sheriff Hidges	68	...	...	3.3	...
85	57	Sherrco	69	...	...	10.2	10.5
222	188	Smart (J)	221	...	8.5	5.1	10.2
15	6	Summit	9½	...	0.3	6.2	7.8
161	51	Tarmac	107	-2	5.5	6.6	44.2
128	120	Tay Homes	168	-1	5.5	4.8	8.0
143	34	Taylor Woodrw	67	-1	9.5	...	9.5
688	398	Tilbury Dougls	488	+21	33.6	8.6	15.1
48	18	Trans Rtnss	19	...	...	2.8	...
288	185	Travis Perkins	280	+8	8.8	3.9	28.5
58	20	Try Group	31	...	6.0	...	4.3
38	28	Tudor e	28	...	...	...	...
106	45	Wimpimpex	66	...	3.6	7.3	12.1
55	12	Ward Hidgs	23	...	0.5	...	...
28	13	Waterboys	22	...	...	...	...
407	265	Water Maint	360	...	9.3	3.4	18.7
19	9	Wescol e	12	...	...	...	...
129	45	Westcorp	90	...	...	6.8	...
11	5	West Stalbridge	6	...	...	...	...
28	23	Wiggins	25	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	395	-2	8.7	2.9	20.3
221	95	Wilson (C)	175	-3	3.9	3.0	27.8
169	65	Wimpey G	115	+1	...	6.1	44.2
81	26	YRM	31	+1	4.0	17.2	3.6

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
244	162	Allied Colloids	244 †	+3	3.9	2.1	19.4
647	413	Amersham	647	+26	12.5	2.6	24.0
31½	9½	Anglo Dfd	9½	...	0.8	...	...
9025	1920	BASF Dfd	9465	-125	...	...	9.2
260	201	BTP	265	+1	8.8	4.8	17.9
£112	9050	Bayer DM50	£105½	...	...	5.1	...
248	126	Bigsden	183	...	9.5	8.3	11.0
154	115	Brent Chems	154	+9	7.3	6.4	72.8
458	182	Br Tin-Tech	458	...	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Grp	20	...	2.5	17.3	5.0
179	112	Canning (W)	131	...	7.2	7.4	10.5
646	321	Cannondale	608	+1	13.0	2.9	16.4
259	142	Crafts	259	+4	7.5	4.2	18.1
211	152	Hdlr & Everard	195	+3	8.8	5.7	15.7
16	7	Euro Colour	16	...	0.6	5.4	...
108	48	Evode	105	-1	3.5	4.6	...
265	173	Rotaprint (J)	265	...	...	3.0	14.2
227	155	Rotation	178	-17	7.8	5.0	12.5
13000	12500	Rotork	9875	-225	...	7.9	...
1410	975	RCI	1360	-24	55.0	6.6	26.8
660	494	Laporte	613	-16	18.9	4.1	16.5
528	138	Leigh	204	+3	7.8	5.1	16.6
280	11	MDM	16	+3	1.8	...	32
1130	1100	Mark Hydro	1525	+125	...	...	2.2
400	360	Paterson Zoch	375	+5	11.4	4.1	16.2
395	355	-do- 'A'	365	...	11.4	4.2	15.7
201	201	Pipex	283	+3	6.0	3.0	17.7
141	130	Perrott	141	+1	...	2.4	14.8
11	4½	Smiths Spnkr	7¾	...	...	...	...
456	338	Wardle Storey	456	+11	16.0	4.7	18.3
400	220	Wimbledon P	400	...	16.3	5.2	18.5
309	253	York Chem	280	...	...	2.5	19.8
273	214	Yule Catto	248	+4	5.4	3.9	15.1

DRAPERY, STORES

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
322	93	Alexon	98	+1	10.6	14.4	5.3
108	33	Amber Day	46	+2	3.1	9.0	12.6
306	193	Argos Plc	282	+6	6.4	3.0	19.6
99	57	Ashley (Laura)	83	-3	...	6.1	...
298	180	Asprey e	285	...	...	2.3	23.1
340	180	Austin Reed	330	...	6.0	...	58.2
159	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	132	+4	5.7	5.8	12.6
144	74	Bemrose	128	+4	3.8	5.0	30.4
134	32	Blacks Leis	37	...	3.3	...	6.4
371	136	Body Shop	191	-3	1.6	1.1	22.0
13½	3	Brown & Jackson	13½	...	...	...	...
304	260	Brown (N)	284	+4	...	2.5	20.1
30	20	Burton	28½	...	...	2.0	34
330	126	Cantors	131	+4	...	2.7	30.8
358	265	Church	300	...	12.5	5.6	24.7
131	58	Clinton Cards	110	+2	3.7	5.0	...
131	51	Coats Viyella	122	+2	5.0	4.1	25.3
163	77	Colorvision e	86	+1	...	1.2	14.5
329	303	Courts Furnish	329	+2	5.0	1.5	18.8
282	100	Crown Eye e	150	+5	...	3.3	7.0
111	65	Daisy Rstn Ind	97	+1	...	...	17.1
32	20½	Dewhirst (D)	32	...	0.2	1.8	17.2
286	170	Dixons Grp	280	+6	6.0	2.9	31.0
405	358	Dunhill	370	...	2.7	2.7	13.1
35	13	EBA Grp	20	...	...	...	...
780	530	Ely (Nicholas)	530	...	16.0	...	11.8
74	30½	Essex Farm	74	+1	...	5.0	14.8
258	199	Etam	222	...	6.6	4.0	19.8
519	345	Fine Art Dev	513	-1	11.0	2.9	19.7
88	39	Fired Earth Tiles	87	...	2.5	2.9	19.7
600	438	Formfitter	498 †	...	12.5	3.4	20.4
75	5	French Conn e	28	...	...	...	...
29	18	Gabbitas e	29	...	...	...	...
69	58	Gent Sht	67	+2	2.0	3.7	13.8
21	18	Goldsmiths Gp	20	...	1.8	...	...
2400	1800	GUS	2400	...	40.0	2.2	19.0
1728	1326	-do- 'A'	1705	...	40.0	3.3	13.5
70	30	Hampden Grp e	34	...	...	7.2	4.8
252	210	Hanover e	222	...	...	2.8	15.1
35	24	Hebson Plc	29	...	...	2.8	8.9
18	8	Heritage e	13	...	...	...	...
35	18	Honeysuckle e	23	...	...	3.1	7.2
168	130	Hse of Lerose	141	...	10.3	7.3	11.4
195	140	Jacques Vert	64	...	2.0	4.2	14.7
598	414	Kingfisher	589	-4	15.0	2.9	17.7
95	65	Leslie Wise Gp	66	...	4.0	6.1	11.1
665	408	Liberty	650	+20	4.0	0.6	11.1
353	182	Lloyds Chem	286	+5	5.5	2.6	13.3
424	290	MFI	345	-4	7.1	2.9	20.0
348	268	Marks Spencer	328	-4	17.4	5.0	8.3
474	319	Marshall (John)	474	...	8.0	2.8	18.9
140	130	Moss Bros	138	...	5.0	4.8	12.3
51	37	Next	146	...	0.7	0.7	28.8
15	7	Oliver (G)	17	...	1.0	...	...
222	180	Ostborne Intl	220	...	...	5.0	14.1
145	70	Owen	70	+1	...	2.8	10.3
5½	3	Pepe Group e	4	...	...	...	...
280	202	Qs Hidgs	260	+5	4.7	2.4	20.1
29	7	Ramsay Crosp	14	-½	2.4	22.9	...
29	10	Rdtns Grp e	29½	...	...	2.2	15.5
180	110	Sherwood Grp	149	...	...	2.2	13.8
115	54	Sears	101	+1	3.4	3.4	14.2
533	357	Smith WH 'A'	495	+1	13.4	3.6	16.2
20	14	Spectrolyse e	14	...	...	...	...
207	82	Stanhope e	195 †	...	...	3.4	...
236	153	T & S Stores	185	...	5.5	4.0	12.0
74	27	Tie Rack	73	...	3.0	...	...
185	132	Time Products	165	+2	7.5	6.1	16.1
29	18	Ulster (Frank) e	20	...	...	9.3	6.9
1302	1230	Wardrobe	1275	-25	...	...	...
1410	975	Warehse Dfd	1360	-24	55.0	6.6	26.8
660	494	Waterstone e	613	-16	18.9	4.1	16.5
528	138	Wickes	204	+3	7.8	5.1	16.6
70	28	Wld of Leathers e	46	...	...	...	52.0
205	102½	Wyevale e	148	+1	...	3.4	16.5
7	3	Xtra-vision e	3½	...	...	...	3.2

ELECTRICALS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
103	45	AB Elect	61½	+½	...	...	...
197	128	ACT Group	162	+9	4.3	3.7	15.9
231	195	Acal e	223	...	...	3.5	16.7
47½	6	Accum Comp e	20	...	...	...	...
290	200	Admiral	300	+4	4.8	1.6	17.7
133	94	Alba	106	...	4.7	6.0	13.6
75	7	Alphameric	19½	...	...	...	...
42	19	Amstrad	23	...	0.4	2.3	...
141	83	Appl Holos	103	...	...	...	...
22	12	Arlec	17	...	...	...	...
371	136	Body Shop	191	-3	1.6	1.1	22.0
13½	3	Brown & Jackson	13½	...	...	...	...
304	260	Brown (N)	284	+4	...	2.5	20.1
30	20	Burton	28½	...	...	2.0	34
330	126	Cantors	131	+4	...	2.7	30.8
358	265	Church	300	...	12.5	5.6	24.7
131	58	Clinton Cards	110	+2	3.7	5.0	...
131	51	Coats Viyella	122	+2	5.0	4.1	25.3
163	77	Colorvision e	86	+1	...	1.2	14.5
329	303	Courts Furnish	329	+2	5.0	1.5	18.8
282	100	Crown Eye e	150	+5	...	3.3	7.0
111	65	Daisy Rstn Ind	97	+1	...	...	17.1
32	20½	Dewhirst (D)	32	...	0.2	1.8	17.2
286	170	Dixons Grp	280	+6	6.0	2.9	31.0
405	358	Dunhill	370	...	2.7	2.7	13.1
35	13	EBA Grp	20	...	...	...	...
780	530	Ely (Nicholas)	530	...	16.0	...	11.8
74	30½	Essex Farm	74	+1	...	5.0	14.8
258	199	Etam	222	...	6.6	4.0	19.8
519	345	Fine Art Dev	513	-1	11.0	2.9	19.7
88	39	Fired Earth Tiles	87	...	2.5	2.9	19.7
600	438	Formfitter	498 †	...	12.5	3.4	20.4
75	5	French Conn e	28	...	...	...	...
29	18	Gabbitas e	29	...	...	...	...
69	58	Gent Sht	67	+2	2.0	3.7	13.8
21	18	Goldsmiths Gp	20	...	1.8	...	...
2400	1800	GUS	2400	...	40.0	2.2	19.0
1728	1326	-do- 'A'	1705	...	40.0	3.3	13.5
70	30	Hampden Grp e	34	...	...	7.2	4.8
252	210	Hanover e	222	...	...	2.8	15.1
35	24	Hebson Plc	29	...	...	2.8	8.9
18	8	Heritage e	13	...	...	...	...
35	18	Honeysuckle e	23	...	...	3.1	7.2
168	130	Hse of Lerose	141	...	10.3	7.3	11.4
195	140	Jacques Vert	64	...	2.0	4.2	14.7
598	414	Kingfisher	589	-4	15.0	2.9	17.7
95	65	Leslie Wise Gp	66	...	4.0	6.1	11.1
665	408	Liberty	650	+20	4.0	0.6	11.1
353	182	Lloyds Chem	286	+5	5.5	2.6	13.3
424	290	MFI	345	-4	7.1	2.9	20.0
348	268	Marks Spencer	328	-4	17.4	5.0	8.3
474	319	Marshall (John)	474	...	8.0	2.8	18.9
140	130	Moss Bros	138	...	5.0	4.8	12.3
51	37	Next	146	...	0.7	0.7	28.8
15	7	Oliver (G)	17	...	1.0	...	...
222	180	Ostborne Intl	220	...	...	5.0	14.1
145	70	Owen	70	+1	...	2.8	10.3
5½	3	Pepe Group e	4	...	...	...	...
280	202	Qs Hidgs	260	+5	4.7	2.4	20.1
29	7	Ramsay Crosp	14	-½	2.4	22.9	...
29	10	Rdtns Grp e	29½	...	...	2.2	15.5
180	110	Sherwood Grp	149	...	...	2.2	13.8
115	54	Sears	101	+1	3.4	3.4	14.2
533	357	Smith WH 'A'	495	+1	13.4	3.6	16.2
20	14	Spectrolyse e	14	...	...	...	...
207	82	Stanhope e	195 †	...	...	3.4	...
236	153	T & S Stores	185	...	5.5	4.0	12.0
74	27	Tie Rack	73	...	3.0	...	...
185	132	Time Products	165	+2	7.5	6.1	16.1
29	18	Ulster (Frank) e	20	...	...	9.3	6.9
1302	1230	Wardrobe	1275	-25	...	...	...
1410	975	Warehse Dfd	1360	-24	55.0	6.6	26.8
660	494	Waterstone e	613	-16	18.9	4.1	16.5
528	138	Wickes	204	+3	7.8	5.1	16.6
70	28	Wld of Leathers e	46	...	...	...	52.0
205	102½	Wyevale e	148	+1	...	3.4	16.5
7	3	Xtra-vision e	3½	...	...	...	3.2

Slide continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began January 4. Dealings end January 15. §Contango day January 18. Settlement day January 25. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ELECTRICITY

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
444	222	East Midlands	431	-4	17.1	5.4	8.2
429	266	Eastern Elect	426	+2	16.7	5.3	10.4
269	143	Hydro-Elect	265	-5	10.1	4.3	11.1
466	288	London Elect	441	-2	16.8	5.4	8.5
515	334	Manweb	486	-8	18.2	5.0	7.5
482	282	Midlands Elec	472	-2	17.2	4.9	9.8
480	295	Northern Elec	482	-2	18.5	5.2	7.0
498	298	Norweb	480	-2	17.7	5.0	8.9
297	142	Scottish Power	294	-4	10.1	4.8	11.5
474	227	Scottish Hydro	468 †	-3	17.2	5.0	8.3
539	313	Sth Wales	494 †	-3	19.4	5.2	7.5
474	282	Sth Western	466	-4	17.4	5.0	8.3
449	270	Southern Elec	436 †	-7	16.6	5.1	8.6
311	231	Yorkshire Elec	311	-1	17.1	6.1	7.6
290½	188	National Power	223	-4	9.1	4.5	8.9
265	196	PowerGen	224	-3	9.2	4.6	8.4

FINANCE, LAND

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
58	28	Abbey Home	55	...	0.5	...	35.1
61	37½	BTR e	51	+2	...	7.8	7.1
104	23	Bellis Plc	32	...	4.3	...	2.8
653	299	Caledonia	653	...	14.4	4.2	17.4
1950	1050	Cornelia	1025	-175	22.0	3.3	9.0
358	103	Covent	155	-1	...	1.9	4.5
135	97	Ivory Sime	130 †	-1	...	6.4	13.8
6½	3½	LIT	4	...	...	...	...
15	7½	Lighterage	11	...	...	...	0.5
195	110	Lon Parkbridge	155	...	...	6.6	13.5
14	4	Manabilt	5	...	...	...	...
7	1¼	Nat Home Loan	3½	...	...	...	...
41	24	Normandale	41	...	...	...	...
233	179	Peachtree Ho	224	...	...	2.6	10.0
129	94	Rmnd Th	119	+1	0.6	0.5	5.4
315	120	S & U	315	+18	...	3.5	11.3
45	21	Silvermines	28	-3	...	10.3	...
52	34	Singer & Fried	52	+2	2.5	6.4	11.4
863	575	Sotheby	825	...	...	4.8	...
99	73	STP Capital	86	-1	3.0	4.7	15.6

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1650	1000	Amer Express	1625 †	-25	...	...	...
233	149	Electra	186 †	-1	6.7	4.8	...
653	535	Henderson Ad	653	-40	41.0	6.3	16.0
180	90	Jerome MDM	109	...	...	4.1	8.0
223	121	Jardine Stras	186	-3	...	4.3	8.0
174	100½	MAI	169	-5	6.0	4.7	12.3
439	244	MAM	419	-9	11.5	3.7	16.7
666	460	M & G	650	-5	20.0	4.0	17.5
133	81	Anthon Mer Ct	124	...	4.5	4.8	4.9
98	57	Sterling Tste	97 ß	...	...	4.5	8.5

FOODS

514	382	AB Food	508	...	14.0	3.7	11.5
83	22½	ASDA Group	63	+4	2.1	...	16.4
173	75	Acrow & Hunch	173	...	6.1	3.5	11.1
83	31	Albert Fisher	69	+2	3.7	5.3	10.0
432	273	Argyll	399	+10	9.7	2.3	15.7
51	11	Ashley Group	19½	...	0.7	3.7	...
147	103	Assoc Dairies	131	...	4.1	3.1	24.2
172	143	Assoc B C	172	+10	8.2	4.8	8.5
330	200	Barr (AG)	330	+4	5.4	2.2	16.3
117	74	Bensons Crisps	78	+1	...	5.0	8.1
274	10	Botsford Ind	25	...	...	...	...
480	322	Booker	384	+8	23.7	7.1	12.4
44	28	Bonthwick	38	-1¼	1.1	3.0	26.5
457	334	Brake Bros	456	...	5.7	1.7	19.1
51	31	Bunigen	46	+2	...	4.3	16.7
693	412	Cadbury-Schw	693	+5	12.5	1.8	17.9
98	44	Cavis Milling	78 †	...	3.9	6.7	15.6
220	105	Clifford Sd 'A'	150	+9	8.5	14.5	7.0
186	140	Cranswick e	186 †	+3	...	5.4	13.7
38	8	Cullens	11½	...	0.5	5.8	6.2
425	225	Dalgety	409	...	19.0	4.6	17.1
486	352	Dalgety	484	+7	19.5	5.4	16.1
34	27	Daniels S	29	...	0.2	1.1	31.7
132½	92½	Everest	122	+3	...	3.7	13.2
235	204	Fergusons	230	...	...	2.2	19.1
61	31	Hartingford	61	+2	...	...	...
81	53	Finlay (James)	79	...	4.1	7.0	14.8
80	68	Fyffes	80	+2	...	2.1	10.4
440	280	Geest	375	+3	7.9	2.8	14.2
9	6	Gleeds e	8½	...	...	5.9	7.8
49	34	Grand Central	44	...	1.3	3.0	8.8
180	81	Hazlewood Fds	162	+12	6.1	3.8	9.6
200	68	Hillsdown	141	-7	8.8	6.2	8.5
81	22	Hinton Baptist	81	...	...	...	...
643	422	Inchcape Pension	643½	+9½	8.5	1.3	17.2
142	105	JJ Group	113 †	+5	4.5	3.5	16.3
537	514	York Save	533	+17	16.0	3.7	16.8
206½	169	Low (Wm)	203	+3	8.4	4.1	

ACCOUNTANCY

Putting a value on goodwill

BY WILLIAM BAXTER

FOR many years, accountants have been wrestling with the problem of how to deal with "goodwill". Their problem could have been eased by wiser use of words.

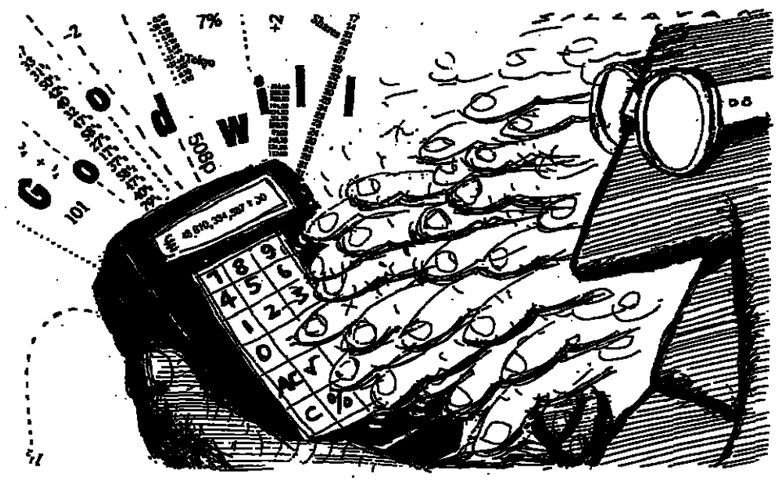
A business can be valued in two ways, which can give different answers. We may look to the future cash receipts the owner can expect and estimate their present value or look at the net assets in the balance sheet and sum their values. Goodwill is the difference between the value arrived at by the discounted cash flow method (DCF) and the sum of assets in the balance sheet (BS).

Traditionally, accountants have regarded goodwill, or DCF-BS, with disfavour. As the future cannot be seen, cash flow figures used for DCF must be guesswork. The discount rate may be questioned. Many people only vaguely understand the notions underlying DCF. Assets can often be appraised fairly accurately and seem familiar and friendly. BS has appeal. Despite its faults, DCF is immensely more important when firms and shares are sold in a sophisticated market. Buyers want the future cash flows, so DCF governs price. Share prices respond quickly to news affecting the prospects for a company's cash flows, whereas markets seem to neglect BS unless DCF is very low.

Balance sheet net assets are best viewed as no more than evidence of the quality of the cash flow estimates behind DCF. Only in the extreme case where the firm will be broken up, making the knockdown proceeds the final cash flow, are assets of much import.

Had accounting methods been different, a firm that bought a subsidiary for £100 could have put it in the group's consolidated balance sheet as "Investment in Company A £100" and no one would normally have argued that it should be written down. Accounting has chosen another method. It splits the £100 among individual assets. If A's machinery is thought to be worth £45, that is added to the group's balance sheet figure for machinery.

Suppose that BS is smaller than DCF, and A's separate assets add up to only £75. To balance the whole with the sum of the parts, the accountant must squeeze in a new asset of £25. On occasion, accounts have used a phrase such as "Excess of A's purchase price over the sum of its



net assets" — which is intelligible. Usually they call it "goodwill" and write it off either at once against reserves, or over a few years against profits.

The word "goodwill" is unfortunate, suggesting some asset has been overlooked. If you measure dissimilar things such as DCF and BS, however, any gap between the two does not prove the existence of a third thing. If a right-hand boot sells for £3 and the left-hand boot for £3, but a pair for £50, there is no £44 third thing lurking in the background; the market views the pair as an economic "whole" different from the parts.

Goodwill also suggests something too nebulous and fickle to be put alongside trustworthy assets. This mistrust can be explained by history. When accountants were called on to value firms and shares, they automatically turned to BS. That sometimes produced an unacceptably low figure. "Normal" profits on assets of £75 might be £7.50 but actual profits £10. Accountants grudgingly topped up BS with goodwill, a cautious multiple of the super-normal profits, but recommended that it should be written off fast.

If new firms can start up in this lucrative field with capital of only £75, it is argued, competition will soon grow and eat away super-normal profits. In practice, most such firms will strive to defend profits. Potential newcomers may face many barriers, earn little at first and have to invest more for training or research.

Bias against DCF-BS is a hangover from an age when DCF was little appreciated. The bias is becoming increasingly unfortunate. More and more firms have lucrative cash flows and few conventional assets. If DCF-BS is excluded, balance sheets will increasingly understate assets.

The "life" of DCF-BS may well stretch forward indefinitely into an unpredictable future. So the law's requirement on directors to write off "goodwill" over its "useful economic life" is an absurdity. Firms forbidden to keep it in their balance sheets will simply invent dubious assets such as brand names instead.

A rational world would keep DCF-BS in the balance sheet, perhaps describing it as the portion of a subsidiary's value not allocated to individual assets. That need not be written down unless DCF has shrunk.

The above assumes DCF-BS stems from purchase of another business. A firm could create "home-purchase goodwill" by revaluing itself upwards — a step regarded until recently as too shocking to contemplate — but how would it be valued? Historical cost might cover items such as spending on research, but how much of such spending was wealth-enhancing and how much normal maintenance. Radical logic suggests revaluation of the whole firm by DCF.

The author is emeritus professor of accounting at the London School of Economics

Machiavellian views on financial reports

PROBABLY the only people who are secretly hoping that the recession will end later are those attempting to put a fairer system of financial reporting in place in the UK. The reasoning is simple. Speedy economic growth has traditionally created pressures that have led to the practice of stretching the figures to keep up with the pace. As each company tries to prove that it is staying ahead of the game, it distorts its figures accordingly. Once the distortions become the norm, the structure and foundations of financial reporting become irrelevant. There is nothing left to depend upon.

A recession results in companies lurching to a standstill and trying to explain to a suddenly sceptical world why everything looks different. The structure put in place under the aegis of the financial reporting council started to bite last year. The whole system started to make a real difference to attitudes of mind as well as to the way in which figures were being expressed. But time is not, if the economy does start to pick up, on the council's side. It really has to have more of its efforts engrained in normal corporate practice before a rush towards an upturn leads financial fashions back to the bending of the rules. This is partly why David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, was so vociferous last year. It had become obvious that a variety of companies were choosing to ignore the spirit of guidance put forward by the urgent issues task force and instead following a path that was beneficial to them and which they thought might just about stand up to legal scrutiny. Tweedie's exasperation was that this is how the system worked in the bad old days. A collusion of weak auditors and ingenious finance directors would make a nonsense of the rules.



ROBERT BRUCE

Tweedie's real task, and that of the whole financial reporting council system, is to stop history repeating itself. Anyone can put a new and radical system in place. It requires endless, tough and assiduous work to ensure that it is effective. And it is that theme which runs through much of the annual review, which the financial reporting council has issued.

It is a heartening document, but it is also one that reveals how tough a job introducing the new system really is. And it ends with a serious and succinct combination of carrot and stick. The council "urges chairmen and chief executives, finance directors, and the auditing profession to give their support to the present system, which keeps the government at arm's length, and which, through the avoidance of a highly detailed set of rules, is the better course".

That support is, by and large, there. But it would only take the pressures of a mild lifting of the recession to put it under great strain. In the meantime, the areas of the new system where fear and enforcement are the most obvious methods of ensuring that everyone stays more or less in line are doing well.

The financial reporting review panel continues to produce results that are the envy of those who tried to bring order to financial reporting chaos over the previous 20 years. The old arrogance of finance directors and chief executives being summoned before the panel to explain their action has gone.

As Edwin Glasgow, the panel's chairman, makes clear in his section of the report, much has depended on the use of fear of bad publicity. A good deal of the panel's influence, he says, "is 'below the waterline' — its very presence has, I believe, been instrumental in deterring the adoption of, or leading to the abandonment of, a number of doubtful accounting practices". This is exactly the sort of pressure that needs to be maintained. But the process of pushing forward needs an acute understanding of how things have gone wrong in the past. Sir Ron Dearing, the council's chairman, is fond of a good pungent quote to get his point across. And so it is with the council's annual review. Appropriately, for someone trying to outwit financial conspirators, he produces a stern warning from the pages of Machiavelli. "There is nothing more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success, than to take the lead in the introduction of a new order of things. Because the innovator has for enemies all those who have done well under the old conditions, and lukewarm defenders in those who may do well under the new. This coolness arises partly from fear of the new. Thus it happens that whenever those who are hostile have the opportunity to attack they do it like partisans, whilst the others defend lukewarmly, in such wise that the innovator is endangered along with them."

As St Augustine might have said: "Lead us out of recession, but not quite yet."

The author is an Associate Editor of Accountancy Age

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Guiding light for PW

PARTNERS of Price Waterhouse who gathered in London for their Founders' Day lunch had an annual chuckle over the firm's Victorian roots. The name of Price, Holyland & Waterhouse caused some problems when the firm opened in 1849. Edwin Waterhouse, one of the founders, recalled in his memoirs: "By a lucky foresight I prevented the carrying out of an order for a brass plate on our swing doors, which had the doors been ajar, would have resulted in 'Price, Holy Water' being seen on one door and 'Land and House' on the other."

OUR first champagne award of the new year for accountancy jokes goes to Richard Mannion of Bristol for this tale: An accountant dictated a letter to a client proposing to do all future work for a set fee of £10,000 per annum. Unfortunately, his secretary left out an "n" from the word "annum". A few days later, he received a reply from the client thanking him for his offer but saying he preferred to carry on paying through the nose, as usual.

Time out

SO MUCH for the curriculum vitae. Nearly half Britain's managers think CVs paint an inaccurate picture of job seekers. Quite a few think at least half the candidates are lying or have left out selective information, according to a survey by Robert Half, the financial recruitment consultant. Gaps in the CV give cause for alarm. A "career break" taken by one candidate applying for a top financial position turned out to be a stint in prison for robbery.

JON ASHWORTH

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TRAVEL

Still game to take a trip to Kenya

Harvey Elliott introduces a new weekly section devoted to travel with a look at a much maligned destination

Now that Daniel arap Moi has been formally elected president in Kenya's marred and controversial elections and the immediate threat of widespread violence has at least temporarily receded, the country which was once the fastest growing British tourist destination in the world is hoping to rebuild its tarnished reputation.

In the past six months the number of British visitors has dropped by more than 70 per cent and many of the biggest tour operators, faced with grim warnings from the Foreign Office that "mugging and violent crime are endemic throughout", have pulled out completely.

Those that have remained — notably Thomson, Kuoni, Abercrombie & Kent and British Airways Holidays — are convinced that Kenya's reputation for violence has been wildly exaggerated and that the isolated cases of tourists being assaulted or even murdered could have happened in any country in the world. Just look at the violent attacks which have been perpetrated on young and old alike throughout Britain over the Christmas holidays, they say.

'Our programme is now operating as it did before the influx of mass tourists heading for the beaches'

They have also discovered a reawakening of demand from the old Kenyan hands who had been deterred from visiting the country by the sudden surge in package holiday visitors who had flocked to the beaches near Mombasa and all but ruined the game reserves within a day's drive of their garish hotels.

Thomas Cook was the first company to turn up its nose at the influx of cheap package tourists, claiming that the game reserves were becoming too commercialised. "Our customers wanted something a bit more up-market," the company said as it turned its attention to Tanzania and further south to Zimbabwe.

As rumours of a new strain of drug-resistant malarial mosquito began to circulate the number of tourists began to decline, a trend which was boosted by the death in 1988 of Julie Ward in the Masai Mara and which became almost a mass boycott in the run up to the elections.

As the number of British visitors fell by more than 70 per cent from about 250,000 in 1991, so the charter companies began cutting back on the number of flights and two of the biggest tour operators — Airtours and Owners Abroad — pulled out completely in November last year.

"The volatility of the country, the potential threat to our customers, the over-commercialisation of the reserves and the escalating prices which meant they were getting less value for their money led us to pull out," George Marcall, the marketing director of Airtours, says.

"We also had to consider the safety of our own staff who were working out of city centres, as well as our own liability under duty of care laws should anything have happened to a customer."

This is not a view shared by Abercrombie & Kent, however. "We have a great deal of faith in the future both of Kenya and the whole of East Africa," David Eldridge, the managing director, says. "All the events of the past 15 months have not helped us and our business is 35 per cent down on what it was last year as a result.

"The truth, however, is that the real Kenya which we visit is light years away from the tabloid depiction of murder and mayhem. It is another world and very frustrating to us that the picture being presented is so negative when 95 per cent of the country is totally unaffected."



Masai magic: the tribesmen of the Masai Mara, one of the game reserves to which old Kenya hands are returning, although package holiday-makers are not

The market-leader, Thomson, also refused to be put off arguing that the Foreign Office's well publicised advice not to travel within Kenya was not a formal warning. "We don't force people to go anywhere," Charles Newbold, the managing director, says. "We can only tell them what the Foreign Office is saying and then let them make up their own mind. I would rather operate to the country and let people make up their own minds."

For holidaymakers who have considered travelling to Kenya, the prospects look better than they have done for at least ten years.

Aircraft — either scheduled services used by A&K and BA Holidays, or charters operated by Britannia on behalf of Thomson — are less crowded than they were. The game reserves are not busy, with only a handful of mini-buses searching for the abundant lion, cheetah, elephant, rhino and giraffe and there has been a discernible trend towards high quality hotels, lodges and safari trails.

"Our Kenya Revisited programme is now operating as it did before the influx of mass tourists heading for the beaches," Mr Eldridge says. "Our clients seem far more resilient than the mass market which moves like locusts from one destination to another. Now they can see the very best the country has to offer in comparative quiet and total safety."

A top of the range A&K 11-night safari holiday will cost about £2,000, while Thomson can still offer a basic week at a beach hotel near Mombasa for around £400. It too, however, is finding an increasing demand for its own Best of Kenya trip taking in game reserves such as the Masai Mara with accommodation at the distinctly up-market Indian Ocean Beach Club and Keekorok Lodge.

A week at the new IOBC would cost £649 basic — not cheap in comparison with the Mediterranean, but with the enormous potential of the rest of Kenya available as an add on.

Gradually that potential is being realised by the top end of the country's indigenous tourist trade. Shimoni Aqua-ventures, for example, which runs exclusive dhow trips to a reef and then lunch in the self-built island home of the owner, had held out against the fierce pressure to cut its rates to attract the mass market and now hopes to benefit from the fresh revival.

There are mosquitoes, there is a chance that if you go out alone at night in the back streets of Nairobi you may be mugged. There are still tribal clashes in some remote areas well away from the tourist routes and there is still an undeniable tension in many towns and cities.

But there are wild animals. There are top-class hotels. And — most important of all — there are now fewer tourists around than there have been for many years.

It may not last.

Airtours ready for war

The bid for Owners Abroad signals a giant travel industry battle

Yesterday's announcement that Airtours is to make a £237 million bid for Owners Abroad, Britain's second biggest holiday group, could spark the biggest price war ever to hit the travel industry. *Harvey Elliott writes.*

If the bid is approved, the new joint company will control more than 27 per cent of the holiday market, compared with Thomson's 33 per cent. Thomson, whose declared aim has always been to retain their strong leadership in the market, are unlikely to take such competition lying down and are certain to cut prices dramatically in an effort to shake off their powerful new rival.

The bid, however, also raises fundamental questions of competition and could well be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. With the two holiday giants controlling at least 60 per cent of the market, including the leading tour operators, travel agencies and charter airlines, their opportunity for squeezing out smaller competitors and pushing their own products at the expense of rivals will be immense.

Airtours took over Pickfords travel agency chain in September and operate eight McDonnell Douglas MD 83 aircraft, which they fill with their own customers and with package tourists from smaller tour operators that do not own an airline. Based in Lancashire, Airtours have a strong following in the North and believes that this will be complemented by Owners Abroad clients in the South.

Owners have suffered for years from a lack of a single public image. Under their corporate umbrella are a wide range of individual trade names, including Enterprise, Falcon, Sunmed, Sovereign and Tjaereborg, as well as the highly praised Air 2000, which has a fleet of 17 modern jets. Owners also lacked a travel agency chain, and last month put in a bid for a 12.6 per cent share in the Thomas Cook chain. This forced Airtours into making their bid and they say that should it be approved there will be no need for the new joint company to be involved in Thomas Cook.

For the moment, the bid remains hostile and will be fought tooth and nail, perhaps enticing rival bids from European giants who for months have been eyeing Britain's hugely succesful travel industry.

Should it eventually go ahead — and the battle is likely to last for up to two months — holiday-makers can look forward to a fierce fight for their custom, with bargains galore being trailed before them. But in the longer term the dominance of two such giants could be against the public interest. The government will need to search its soul.

Getting down to Business

BUSINESS class is now the most important section of an aircraft *(Harvey Elliott writes)*. Airlines rely on the higher fares they can charge to offset the losses accumulated from the burgeoning cut-price economy section and status-conscious businessmen still prefer to arrive at their destination having flown in a degree of comfort.

Yet there is no standard level of service which a passenger can expect. Some airlines provide more leg-room; others offer better food and sometimes even free gifts to woo the discerning traveller.

Reed Travel has produced a comprehensive guide to the facilities available from each airline, and has included it in a special supplement to the new ABC World Airways guide.

In a truncated form we give (right) some of their findings about business class travel within Europe. Next week we will look at long-haul travel and on January 21 at first-class travel.

BUSINESS CLASS AIR TRAVEL IN EUROPE

Airline	Crew ratio	Separate W.C	Seat pitch (inches)	Seat recline	Menu choice	Gifts	Priority check-in	Special lounges	
Aer Lingus	1:15	Yes	32	7.2	30B	No	No	Yes	Yes
Air France	1:20	Yes	34	7.5	45B	No	No	Yes	Yes
Air UK	1:34	No	34	7.5	18B	No	No	No	Yes
Alitalia	n/a	Yes	32	7.5	30B	No	No	Yes	Yes
British Airways	1:20	Yes	34	7.5	30B	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
British Midland	1:20	Yes	34	7.5	30B	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
[illegible] European	1:20	Yes	34	7.5	30B	No	No	No	Yes
[illegible]	1:20	Yes	34	7.5	30B	No	Yes	No	No
[illegible]	1:12	Yes	34	6"	30B	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
[illegible] European	1:12	No	34	7.5	0	No	No	Yes	Yes
[illegible]	1:17	Yes	33	2[illegible]	5"	No	No	Yes	Yes
[illegible]	1:20	Yes	37	[illegible]	30B	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
[illegible]	1:8	Yes	46	[illegible]	28B	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
[illegible]	1:[illegible]	Yes	33	[illegible]	28B	No	No	Yes	Yes
Olympic Airlines	1:8	Yes	39	15	22B	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Sabena	1:20	Yes	34	10	44B	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
SAS	1:15	Yes	34	10	15B	No	No	Yes	Yes
[illegible]	[illegible]	No	34	16.7	28"	Yes	No	Yes	Yes

Bargains galore in the high street

All of a sudden everyone wants to travel — but prices may take off as well

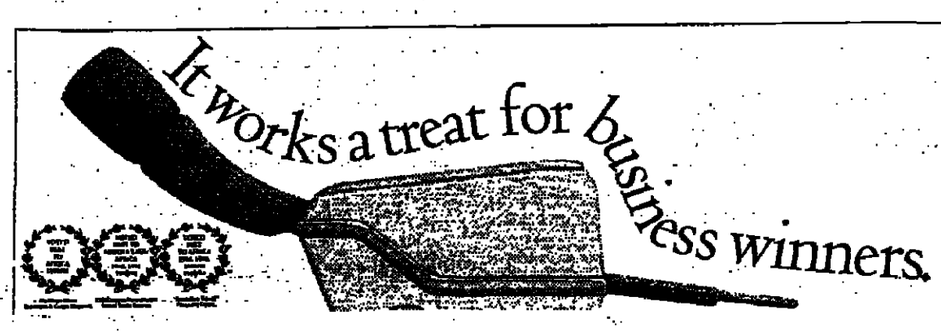
The astonishing turn-around in the fortunes of Britain's travel industry since the new year is leading to fears that prices may soon rise sharply as companies end discounts on flights and holidays.

The high street "sales", with travel agents reducing prices across the board and tour operators tempting customers to book early for next summer, have increased business by an average 60 per cent compared with 1992.

The biggest travel agency chain, Lunn Poly, said that in the first five days of January its business had increased by 120 per cent compared with last year. "All the indications are that people are really starting to spend money again," said Ian Smith, Lunn Poly's managing director.

For travellers who want to go away within the next few weeks there are some remarkable bargains. Avro, the flight-only specialists, can offer a flight to Arrecife in Lanzarote, for example, for £98 return provided you fly from Gatwick or Luton next Thursday, January 14 and stay for at least a week. Cosmos are offering seven nights in Madeira flying from Birmingham on January 18 and staying in the Duas Torres apartments on a bed-and-breakfast basis for £249. Wexas members can get a round trip to Rio de Janeiro throughout the month on a scheduled flight for £510 instead of the normal £986.

Pickfords are offering a week's skiing this weekend in either Breckenridge or Vail, Colorado, departing from Gatwick on January 9 for £299. Lunn Poly are selling four nights in Nice with bed and breakfast, departing Gatwick on January 11 for £141 and a return flight to Sydney, departing on January 16, for £514. Trailfinders are offering a return ticket to Hong Kong between now and the end of February "via a European hub" for £492.



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Start now, before the rush

Harvey Elliott on the dearth of British tourists and investment in the former Czechoslovakia



Under siege: the two states expect more than 60 million foreign visitors this year

British businessmen are shunning the chance of investing in Europe's two newest countries — Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

Leaders of both states, which until last week were part of the unified Czechoslovakia, are becoming concerned at the mass influx of visitors from Germany and France and the dearth of British tourists. They are anxious to see investment flooding into their states from as many countries as possible, rather than have one or two nations dominant both economically and as tourists.

The guards outside Prague castle — still getting used to the "toy-soldier" blue and grey uniforms which have replaced the drab green of the communist years — are beginning to wilt under a daily siege.

A seemingly endless stream of coaches, most carrying back-packing German and French teenagers, floods the courtyard of one of Europe's most impressive buildings as Prague re-emerges as a prime tourist and business destination.

The official figures seem almost unbelievable. This year Cedok, the Czech national travel agency, expects 60 million foreign visitors to arrive in the two newly separated states which have a combined permanent population of only 15 million.

Most come over the border from Germany intent on snapping up bargains, from caviare to carpets now available in the privately owned shops, before making a quick dash to the impressively preserved baroque buildings of old Prague. There were, however, still 250,000 package tourists who flew in direct last year — only 5,000 of whom came from Britain.

Although British tour operators include Prague in their short city break brochures, they receive a disappointingly small response. Much of the reason lies in the comparatively high cost. A three-night break in Prague costs about £400 — more than enough for two weeks in the sun.

Thomson, the holiday company, sent only 500 holiday-makers to the city last year and it blames the high cost of a hotels with no chance of negotiating a cheaper package rate.

Even with a vast building programme now under way, the city has only 10,000 quality hotel beds with probably as many again in small private houses whose owners are learning that taking paying guests can add enormously to the family income.





Prague castle at ease

With possibly ten times as many visitors seeking accommodation, the inevitable market forces of supply and demand have taken over. Hotels in Prague now cost just as much as their counterparts in London or Paris.

The resulting lack of British visitors has been reflected in the business world. British firms worry that Eastern Europe is only slowly learning the ways of capitalism and that it can often be an expensive leap into the unknown to set up factories and distribution outlets. Meanwhile Italy, Spain, France and Germany are pouring in billions of pounds in infrastructure development.

In the first eight months of last year only £123.4 million worth of British-made goods were exported to what was then Czechoslovakia, hungry as it is for western goods and services. This compares with £130 million worth in 1988 before the revolution threw off decades of communist rule.

The lack of British interest is worrying officials in both Prague and the Slovak capital, Brastislava, who are becoming increasingly concerned about the economic take-over of their country by the Germans.

"We need both businessmen and tourists," says Petr Urban, the Cedok president. "The trouble is that more than 80 per cent of both are now coming from Germany, although there has been an encouraging interest from Holland and Italy recently. Our labour costs are considerably cheaper than in Western Europe and there is enormous scope for investment."

Even British Airways, anxious to extend its influence and to become a global carrier, walked away from talks with the Czechoslovakian airline, CSA, when it was privatised last year enabling Air France to step in and take a 38 per cent share.

The French see Prague as a potential European "hub" airport enabling passengers from both east and west to transfer from one aircraft to another at the most central city in Europe. Ironically the joint Czech/French team redeveloping the airline uses English as the common language.

CSA has been transformed from an inefficient, out-dated and bureaucratic state-owned airline into a significant force with a new fleet of aircraft, a gleaming new white livery, retrained staff and fast improving in-flight service.

The airline and Cedok are confident that the splitting of the country will enable them both to develop. CSA says it will continue to serve the interests of both states, while Cedok will retain the name for Prague and the rest of the Czech nation.

The potential for Prague is enormous and the architectural gems, imposing castles and exquisite squares compare with anywhere else in Europe. The outskirts of the city retain their square concrete brutalism of the old regime, but development work is going on apace and within a few years the city will have changed.

The British — who still seem to regard the former Czechoslovakia as "a far away country" with "people of whom we know nothing", as Neville Chamberlain described it — have the choice of going now and perhaps paying a slightly higher price, or waiting until more hotels have been built and prices come down.

By then that lingering, intriguing, exciting legacy of the old communist imprint may have gone for ever to be replaced by modern shops and facilities now found almost anywhere in Europe.

Hotel service at half cost

Private home owners are offering accommodation at low prices

High-priced hotels in London are facing growing competition from private home-owners and serviced apartments able to offer equal comforts at a fraction of the cost (*Harvey Elliott writes*).

Businessmen from Britain, America, the Far East and the Continent are learning that instead of paying at least £100 a night for a top-class London hotel or half that amount for a grubby room in a seedy part of town, they can stay in a comfortable home with a family for as little as £19 a night, with breakfast included.

At Home in London, a placing agency, has collected almost 50 property owners around the English capital prepared to offer bed and breakfast accommodation in what they describe as "elegant and intriguing houses" at prices ranging from £19 in the outskirts to £40 a night in central London. Many of the enquiries it receives are from women executives.

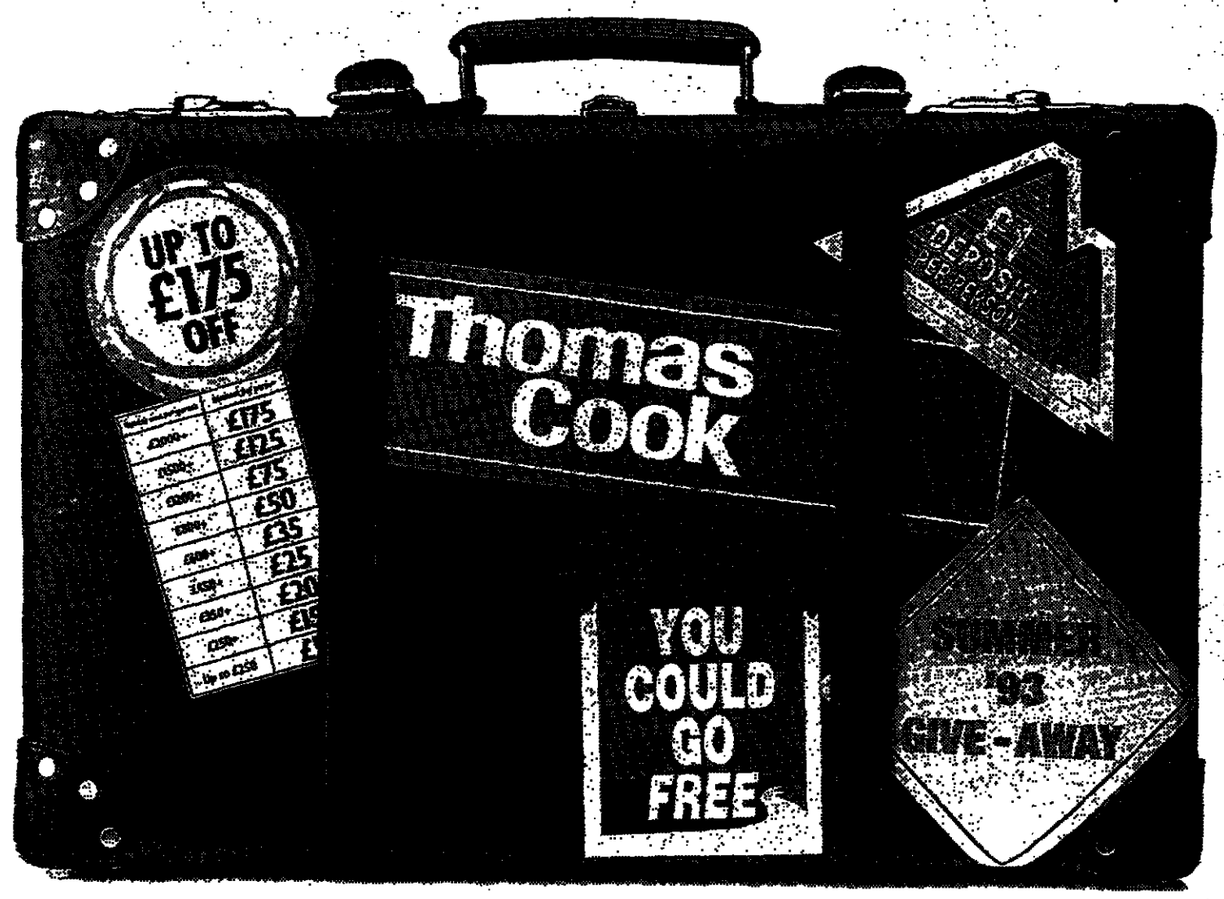
Maggie Dobson, of At Home in London, says: "It is hard to find a hotel where a woman travelling alone can stay inexpensively, yet safely, in a comfortable, spacious room with a dining room where you can relax and enjoy breakfast without fending off unwelcome advances."

Crystal Premier, the domestic tour operator, has produced a glossy brochure of dozens of serviced apartments around London at prices ranging from £40.75 a night for a studio, £141.50 for a three-bedroom apartment — the equivalent of £24 per person per night — to £65 per person per night at the Athenaeum of Regent Street.

"The less formal, home-from-home atmosphere of a central London apartment is a great attraction, particularly among families with children," Simon Box, of Crystal, says. "Coupled with a daily maid service and a 24-hour reception these spacious, self-contained apartments offer excellent value for money."

At the top end of the scale, Westminster Apartments are offering a 50 per cent discount on their two and three bedroom apartments to all first-time users at Fountains, overlooking Hyde Park, until the end of February.

The fully equipped apartments have 24-hour service provided by a resident manager and cost from £93 per night plus VAT.



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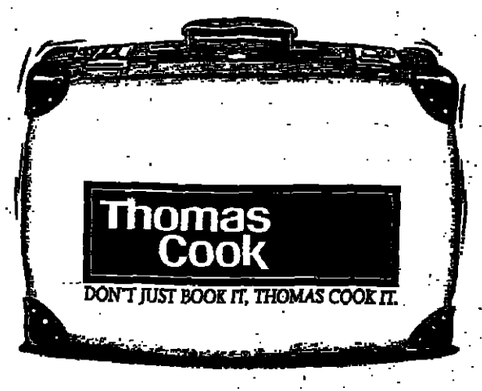
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Once called the Middle East's Switzerland, Lebanon is coming to life again. **Richard Beeston** reports from the capital city

Phoenix rises from ashes of war

For many years, Beirut was the playground of Europe's wealthy elite. Its airline, Middle East Airlines, was known for innovation and high standards and its hotels provided some of the finest service in the world. Then came the bitter civil war that made the Lebanese capital synonymous with violence and fear. Since the end of hostilities three years ago, however, Beirut has been making a steady return to normality. As fears of kidnapping and death recede, the city is no longer one of the world's most dangerous place to visit. Some optimists in the travel trade are even talking of offering package holidays to Lebanon.


MAGNUM

On course: throughout most of the civil war, horse-racing in Beirut continued at the hippodrome, the one place where its citizens set aside their differences

When Lebanese police recently uncovered the bodies of two wealthy jewellers robbed and murdered in a prosperous Christian suburb of Beirut, the city's inhabitants feared a new outbreak of lawlessness.

Although the Lebanese civil war officially ended three years ago and the gunmen have ostensibly disappeared from the streets, the enduring atmosphere of anarchy has continued to thwart Lebanon's efforts to turn back the clock to 1975, when the country's prosperity earned it the title of "the Switzerland of the Middle East".

This time, however, within days of the murders last month, the much-maligned Lebanese homicide squad proudly announced that two Lebanese civilians and two Syrian soldiers had been arrested and charged and that four other men were still being sought by the authorities, one of them tracked to Belgium. Although the case in itself is unlikely to stamp out serious crime in Lebanon, it certainly gave the gunmen notice that the days of gangland rule are ending and reassured the public that Lebanon could finally throw off the legacy of its war.

Everywhere in Beirut today, from the airport, once notorious for hijackings and smuggling, to the city's anarchic traffic, the authorities are making a determined attempt to bring the capital to heel. Passengers once used to forcing their way to the front of ticket counters and through customs halls must now queue, while double-parked cars, formerly a standard feature on the capital's main thoroughfare, Hamra Street, are being towed to the police pound.

The main force behind the revolutionary changes under way is Rafik Hariri, the country's new prime minister, a self-made billionaire whose energetic plans for rebuilding his shattered country seem to have infected the population with new enthusiasm.

Aside from his well-publicised attempts to reimpose law and order, most recently by deploying troops in the militant Shia Muslim slums of Beirut's southern suburbs, the businessman-turned-politician knows that ultimately his tenure in office will be judged on his ability to rebuild Beirut and restore the country's economy.

"The situation is improving by the month, but progress is slow and the size of the job is staggering," says the Lebanese leader, whose coming to power has already boosted confidence in the national currency, which has strengthened by a third against the US dollar.

The city, nevertheless, has always showed a certain defiance, despite the pressures of its sectarian and religious differences. Horse-racing was held throughout most of the war, at the hippodrome, located on, of all places, the "green line", the confrontation area between the Christian east of the city and the Muslim west. Racing was suspended during the worst months of fighting as the violence sometimes interfered with the proceedings. In one memorable incident at the height of the anarchy, a rocket was fired at the stewards' room as an enquiry into a race result was being held. But racing, with Arab thoroughbreds, is continuing at the course, one of the few places where both communities forget their differences in the pursuit of pleasure.

The desire to join together has already attracted back many wealthy Lebanese expatriates to their homeland, some to spend Christmas holidays at exclusive skiing resorts at Faraya and Fakra, others with essential private capital who believe that the time is right to start reinvesting in the country.

To entice investors, Mr Hariri plans to overhaul Beirut by issuing tenders for foreign companies to start repairing the roads, electricity lines and telephones this year. He predicts that within five years much of the basic reconstruction in the capital's business area will be complete and that a modern, urban phoenix will emerge from the ashes of the Mediterranean city.

Certainly, the glitzy artist's impression of the restored ancient monuments beside the futuristic steel and glass skyscrapers has captured the imagination of many Beirutis old enough to remember the glory days of the pre-war city.

But the plans fail to take into account important obstacles, which probably no Lebanese can influence. The continued presence of 40,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon, Israel's hold over the self-declared security zone in the south and Lebanon's regional vulnerability still threaten the country's stability, a point emphasised by the 415 unwanted Palestinians dumped by the Israelis in the southern Lebanese no man's land.

Mr Hariri says: "After years of war, we are trying to establish a strong state. If we back down now, everything could be jeopardised. We are just emerging from a civil war which destroyed our country, its infrastructure and the unity of our people. We cannot accept adding a new problem to our old problems."

Seaside jaunts in jeopardy

EC rules may stop self-organised trips by small groups

Hundreds of church groups, pensioners' organisations and sports clubs could fall foul of a new European directive on package travel (*Harvey Elliott writes*).

The directive, which became law on January 1, rules that anyone who regularly organises travel and accommodation on behalf of a group must ensure that the money taken to pay for it is fully protected against loss. Therefore, the organiser of a club outing which includes travel and accommodation may have to provide insurance against any potential loss, or hold a bond equivalent to 20 per cent of turnover with a recognised organisation, such as the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta).

As an alternative, such organisers could place the money collected in an "escrow" account, which cannot be touched until the trip has taken place. This could entail the organiser having to pay in advance from his own pocket.

The directive is supposed to exclude any organisation which organises travel "occasionally", but it does not define what that constitutes. Travel experts fear that it will take a test case in court to clarify matters. "The way the directive, which is now law, will be implemented is still in a mess, but many small clubs that have traditionally organised such trips themselves could well be affected," Keith Betton, of Abta, said yesterday.

"They would be well advised to go to a recognised travel agent and use the agency's licence and bond to provide the protection now demanded by the law."

Responsibility for enforcing the directive has been left with local trading standards officers.

Few countries in Europe have the level of protection that Abta insists its members provide, and another fear is that the level of protection laid down under the directive is less than that provided by members of Abta and of the Association of Independent Tour Operators (Aito). The directive says, for example, that tour operators that fail must be able to repatriate clients who are abroad. It says nothing, however, about bringing home customers from isolated parts of their own country.

The directive was changed at the last moment to require a bond to cover not only bookings made this year but those made during 1992 for holidays in 1993. As a result, some tour operators not in Abta or Aito are struggling to find the funds for the additional protection.

The directive was intended to improve protection for holidaymakers. It appears, however, to have been insufficiently thought out.

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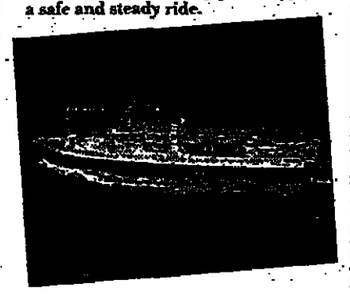


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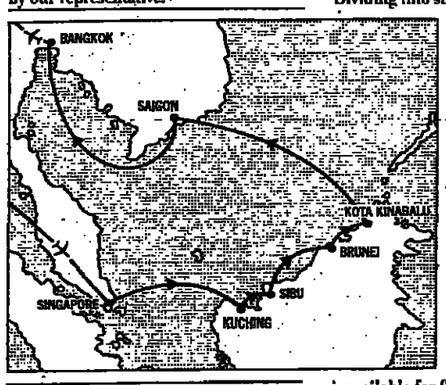
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DAY 2 Singapore Arrive and drive to the Hilton Hotel for a 2 night stay.

DAY 3 Singapore Relax, shop or join one of the many optional tours arranged by our representative.



DAY 4 Embark on MS Caledonian Star. Morning free in Singapore, embark in mid-afternoon and sail at 17.00 hours.

DAY 5 At sea

DAY 6 Kuching Exploration ashore will include the Margherita Fort, the Raja's Istana Palace and the Museum. There will be time to absorb the unique influences of the colonial past and indigenous culture, perhaps taking a Sampan across the Sarawak River to view the riverside stilted houses.

DAY 7 Sibu From our mooring in Sibu on the Rajang River we will embark on to fast, specially adapted river boats for journey upstream through the jungle to the territory of the Ibans. After lunch sail from Sibu past the rural Chinese settlements and out to sea.

DAY 8 Brunei - Bandar Seri Begawan See the golden domes of the Omar Ali Mosque and splendid palace of the Sultan. Here half the population live in traditionally built stilt houses connected by walkways and bridges. The naturalists can undertake a visit to the coastal wetlands with our expedition leader.

DAY 9 Kota Kinabalu Join a two day excursion to the Mount Kinabalu National Park, driving along scenic forest roads, we climb to 5000 feet to the park headquarters. Here there are walks and nature trails through spectacular mountain scenery which ranges from lowland jungle, drier forests, cloud forests, mountain forests and culminating in the bare craggy majestic peak of Mount Kinabalu, which at 13,000 feet is the highest mountain in South East Asia. Those who remain on board may explore the coastline and city, including the rubber and palm plantations, rice paddies and the Kampong-Air floating villages.

DAY 10 Kota Kinabalu Sail in the evening.

DAYS 11 and 12 At sea

DAY 13 Saigon Enter the Mekong at 0700 hours and sail up the river to Saigon, arriving in the late morning. Dividing into small groups we will visit the Presidential Palace, the Cholon district, markets and a Buddhist centre. Moor overnight in Saigon.

DAY 14 Saigon Morning visit to the tunnels of Cu Chi which were used by the Vietcong during the Vietnamese conflict and once spread over an area of 200 miles.

DAYS 15 and 16 At sea

DAY 17 Bangkok Arrive in the morning, disembark and drive to the Hilton for a night's stay (a further 3 night extension at the Hilton is available for £95 per person in a twin room, £160 in a single.) Our representative can arrange excursions in and around Bangkok.

DAY 18 Bangkok - London Day free in Bangkok until evening departure by British Airways to London.

DAY 19 Return to London (Heathrow)

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LONDON

PRINCESS IDA: Gilbert and Sullivan's wry look at women's education: camp staging by Ken Russell.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-836 3161), 7.30pm.

LONDON WINDS: Pianist Noriko Ogawa joins the group in a Poulenc birthday concert including the Oboe Sonata, Clarinet Sonata and Sextet for piano and wind
Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, W1 (071-935 2141), 7.30pm.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: Richard Hickox conducts the LSO and Chorus and the Southend Boys Choir in works by Vaughan Williams (overture, *The Wasps*); William Alwyn (Symphony No 3); and Orff (*Carmina Burana*). The soloists are Janice Watson, Michael Chance and Donald Maxwell.
Barbican Hall, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.30pm.

MR CINDERS: Samuel West and Sally Anne Triplett spread a little happiness in another revival of the Vivian Ellis charmer about a poor young man and a rich girl
King's Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (071-226 1916). Opens tonight, 7.30pm, then Tues-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm

RETREAT FROM MOSCOW: Bony Stanton and Michael N Harbour in Don Taylor's latest, billed as a trog-comedy, about an English classicist, a Russian exile and a bulging suitcase.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

New End, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (071-794 0022). Opens tonight, 7.30pm; then Tues-Sun, 7.30pm, mat Sun, 4pm.

JOHN AND ALEC DANKWORTH "GENERATION BAND": The six player kicks off Ronnie Scott's 1993 season without his Big Band but in the company of his son Alec and young musicians including the gifted Gerard Prescencer on trumpet.
Ronnie Scott's, Frith Street, W1 (071-439 0747), tonight-Sat, 8.30pm.

REGIONAL

EDINBURGH: The spring season starts amazingly early with Julian Cadzow in the title role of **The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie**. Sixteen schoolgirls fill up the numbers of Miss Brodie's *crème de la crème*.
Royal Lyceum, Grindlay Street (031-229 9697). Preview tonight, 7.45pm, opens tomorrow, 7.45pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat (Jan 16 and 23), 3.15pm.

EDINBURGH: "Ecco Roma" gathers from the Scottish National Gallery's own collection a series of tributes to the enduring magic of the Eternal City, including works made in Rome by such illustrious visitors as Brueghel, Elsheimer, Poussin, Claude, Turner, Palmer and others, as well as locals such as Raphael and Piranesi. Scots Ramsay, Wilkie, David Roberts and Alexander Runciman also stand out.
National Gallery of Scotland, The Mound (031-556 8921). Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm, Sun, 11am-6pm, until January 31

NORWICH: Following their recent guest appearance with Billy Bragg, the offbeat Canadian band **Barenaked Ladies** headline their own tour.
Waterfront, 139-141 King Street, (0603 766266), 7.30pm.

OXFORD: Klaus Tennstedt conducts the London Philharmonic in Strauss's *Don Juan*, Bruch's *Violin Concerto No 1* (with soloist Arve Tellefsen) and Brahms's First Symphony.
Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street (0865 864056), 8pm.

STOKE-ON-TRENT: One of the most famous of Britain's genuine primitive painters, Charles William Brown (1882-1961) spent all his working life as a coal-miner down the pits and all his spare time painting. At his death he left more than 1,500 works to Stoke City Museum and Art Gallery, with the instruction that they should keep anything interesting and scrap the rest. This exhibition, **The Instinctive Art of C.W. Brown**, gives a rounded picture of Brown's imaginative world, and testifies to the power of his imagery.
City Museum and Art Gallery, Bethesda Street, Hanley (0782 202173). Mon-Sat, 10.30am-5pm, Sun, 2-5pm

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** is gripped by a tale of old Egypt

DONALD COOPER



Team at work: Lady Evelyn Herbert (Sophie McConnell), Lord Carnarvon (Peter Glancy) and Howard Carter (Nick Rawling)

Desert rats and mummy dearest

The Curse of the Pharaohs
Lyric Studio
Hammersmith

THE title creates expectations of Hammer-film mummies trundling through the Valley of the Kings, pulverising the odd archaeologist as they go; but, as it turns out, Robin Brooks's play is a lively and relatively responsible account of events surrounding the dig that unearthed Tutankhamun 70 years ago. If there was a "curse of the Pharaohs", it suggests, it took a slyer form than retributive mosquito bites, sudden power cuts, and other such scaremongering snippets from Tut lore.

The four-person cast, members of Empty Space Theatre Company, come up with their quota of atmosphere-setting business: the sound of water dripping into the tomb, the noise of trains arriving, even a little dance burlesquing the figures on ancient Egyptian friezes. But mostly they are able to bring their considerable skills to the playing of one character each: Howard Carter, Lord Carnarvon, his daughter Evelyn Herbert and, more unexpectedly, Saad Zaghlul, leader of a briefly independent Egypt.

I suppose I had better admit to some personal prejudice, since Carnarvon was my great-uncle. But he emerges as a more Wodehousian figure than he surely was, in Peter Glancy's performance a mild, affable chap who has trouble pronouncing his r's and tends to come out with Drones Club *smalltalk* such as "old ticker" and "nil desperandum, what?" Yet it is basically a serious and, when blood poisoning finally does for him, even a moving portrait of a man in most respects more sympathetic than his intemperate associate, Nick Rawling's Howard Carter.

He is seen snapping and spluttering at all around: at Carnarvon when he talks of withdrawing funding; at Lady Evelyn, with whom he has a historically questionable romance; and at anyone, English or Egyptian, who interrupts his obsessive measurings of the tomb and listings of its treasures. He even manages to call Adam Fahey's urbane Zaghlul "a baboon" to his face. It is the sort of single-mindedness that gets things done but, by unnecessarily offending people, also gets things undone. The inference is that Carter's hubris and imperviousness to nationalist sentiment was a main reason he ended up sans dig, sans wealth, sans everything he most wanted.

Or perhaps he was a victim of the mummy's curse? At one point, a king cobra ominously menaces Sophie McConnell's bashful Evelyn: at another, someone purports to see a mark identical to Carnarvon's mosquito bite on Tut's death-mask. Inarticulate Egyptian yells of terror and whispers of "and now something terrible will happen" are heard from time to time. But when Rawling's Carter growls "there's no curse, look at me, I'm alright, aren't I?", it isn't just his suit that by now has a brown, threadbare look. His face seems pretty cursed, too.

Brooks clearly wants us to compare *him with Zaghlul, who also ends up* robbed, defeated and alone; but I am not sure this adds up to anything that can be grandly dignified as a "theme". The piece is less an intellectual artefact than a piece of story-telling: splendidly strong when our explorers ("wonderful things!") discover the tomb; over-the-top when Carnarvon violently quarrels with Carter over Evelyn, receiving the killer-bite at the very moment he plunges to the ground. But, thanks to Andrew Holmes's cool, sane direction, it is gripping throughout.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◪ **ANNIE GET YOUR GUN:** Irving Berlin's pre-feminist musical is no model for a Nineties woman but the songs are simply smashing.
Prince of Wales, Coventry Street, W1 (071-839 5987). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, Sun, 3pm. 160mins. *Final week.*

☐ **ARTISTS AND ADMIRERS:** Ostrovsky's sharp, affectionate picture of a theatrical anthill in Russia circa 1880. Lovely performances by, among others, Sylvestra le Touzel and Philip Voss
The Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm. 150mins.

☐ **BARNUM:** Enjoyable Christmas treat, with Paul Nicholas walking the high wire. Bouncy numbers by Cy Coleman and Michael Stewart
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-580 9645). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

■ **CAROUSEL:** Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphant revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein fairground musical.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Tues, Sat, 2.15pm. 180mins.

◪ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC:** Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

☐ **HAY FEVER:** Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats, Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

◪ **IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY:** Larks in the hospital common room, manon outraged, doctors flummoxed. Ray Cooney farce with lots of laughs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 135mins.

◪ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND:** Anna Carteret, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins

☐ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN:** Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins

☐ **LOST IN YONKERS:** Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

☐ **MISERY:** Sharon Gless and Bill Peterson in American *grand guignol*; good characterisation for Stephen King addicts.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

◪ **OUR SONG:** Peter O'Toole in Keith Waterhouse's play about a menopausal male's infatuation with a young woman. Neatly done though we only hear the man's point of view.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8.15pm. Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. 135mins

◪ **PYGMALION:** Alan Howard, Frances Barber in a Howard Davies production that some admire greatly while others feel subordinates the text to a clever design.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Sat, Mon, Tues, 7.15pm, mats Sat, Tues, 2pm. 195mins. Final performances.

☐ **RADIO TIMES:** Tony Slattery in a fun trip down Memory Lane, bursting with sprightly Noel Gay numbers.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5040) Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm, Sat, 4.30pm. 150mins. *Final week.*

☐ **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET:** "The Tempest" plus "Forbidden Planet" plus marvellous rock 'n' roll classics. Insanely tacky, cheering stuff.
Cambridge, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-379 5299). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. Final week.

☐ **THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE:** Alison Steadman and Jane Horrocks in Jim Cartwright's play about a shy girl escaping her raucous mother ingenious but incredible.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT:** Simon Cadell, John Wells, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 25 parts in Giles Havergal's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

☐ **TRELAWNY OF THE 'WELLS':** Pinero's comedy about theatre folk in mid-Victorian London. Successful only in parts and the minor parts at that. Stars Michael Hordern and Sarah Brightman.
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 150mins.

☐ **THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA:** David Thacker's winning revival, Thanes style, for the Royal Shakespeare Company is both comic and romantic, and delightfully acted — not least by a reproachful mutt
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm; then back in the repertoire on Jan 22. 150mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ **Blood Brothers:** Phoenix (071-867 1044) ◪ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ☐ **Carmen Jones:** Old Vic (071-928 7616) . . . ◪ **Cats:** New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged):** Arts Theatre (071-836 2132) . . . ☐ **Dancing at Lughnasa:** Garrick (071-494 5085) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (071-494 5070) . . . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe:** Lyric (071-494 5045) ☐ **From a Jack to a King:** Ambassadors (071-836 6111) ◪ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat:** Palladium (071-494 5037) . . . ☐ **Me and My Girl:** Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ◪ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

DANCE: **John Percival** catches up with new casts in London productions of *Cinderella* and *The Nutcracker*

Change your partners

THE Royal Ballet and English National Ballet have more in common this week than having to announce that they have each lost a leading member of their staff. Both of them are also continuing to liven up their Christmas entertainments by putting out new casts in the leading roles.

At Covent Garden, it was Darcey Bussell's turn on Monday afternoon to make her debut as **Cinderella** for the Royal Ballet. Earlier in the run she had made surprisingly little impact as the Winter Fairy — possibly because the solo they perform nowadays is less interesting than the one Ashton made for Beryl Grey. But the title part suits her better.

Bussell has not yet proved herself much of an actress on her own account, although entirely responsive to a director who knows exactly what he wants, for instance in the two roles MacMillan created for her. As Cinderella, either she has been well produced, or her wide-eyed, open-mouthed eagerness drops perfectly into the role (perhaps a bit of each). And she performs the steps with an awe-inspiring ease, floating so smoothly through her solos and punctuating them with bravura touches, including multiple pirouettes.

Zoltan Solymosi, playing the Prince for the first time, has the looks and the flourish to win a round of applause for his entrance, before dancing a step. He partners beautifully and his dancing is strong, if wayward: a diagonal of three successive double air-turns, landing on one foot, left me wondering why his finish was different every time.

ACROSS the river at the Festival Hall, English National Ballet has invited Janie Parker, one of the ballerinas of Ben Stevenson's Houston Ballet, for some performances of his production of **Nutcracker**. She has brought her own costume (hideously gaudy) and her own partner, although not the intended one. Li Cunxin, whose classic style we have admired on occasion, was ill, so Mark Arvin came instead: a strong partner, but relying on dash more than virtuosity in his solos.

Neither is this rather grand duet ideal for showing off Parker's crisp technique and winsome personality. What we saw on Tuesday was pleasant enough, but did it justify so long a journey for so short an appearance?

This performance also brought the opportunity to see some more of the company's new recruits. Parren Higgins, a much-travelled American, looked a useful soloist; he bounced energetically through his Gopak solo without any sign of breathlessness. But Alexis Manuel, who comes from France (via Cuba and The Netherlands) as a principal, did not show much oomph leading the Waltz of the Flowers. Admittedly, this is not much of a solo, but that is all the more reason for giving it all you have.

NEW RELEASES

◆ **A FEW GOOD MEN** (15): Cocky naval lawyer (Tom Cruise) defends marines accused of murder. Devilishly seductive courtroom drama starring Demi Moore, Jack Nicholson, director, Rob Reiner
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034)
MGM Baker Street (071-935 9772) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574)

TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12): Wonderful, melancholy portrait of French Baroque musicians Sainte-Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle) and his pupil Marin Marais (Gérard and Guillaume Depardieu). Also starring Anne Brochet, director, Alain Corneau.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3306)

A WINTER'S TALE (12): A Paris hairdresser's quest for true love Eric Rohmer near his best: elegant, clear-eyed, realistic. A film laced with magic. Stars Charlotte Very
Chelsea (071-351 3742/3743) **Renoir** (071-837 8402)

CURRENT

◆ **THE BODYGUARD** (15): Kevin Costner as the bodyguard who falls for his showbiz charge (Whitney Houston) Jumbled drama, from a 1975 Lawrence Kasdan script. Director, Mick Jackson
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

CHAPLIN (12): A skilled impersonation by Robert Downey Jr., but Richard Attenborough's bitty biographical epic never penetrates far inside the man or his career.
Odeon Leicester Square (0426 915683)

◆ **DEATH BECOMES HER** (PG): Meryl Streep and Goldie Hawn battle to attain eternal youth. Ice-cold black comedy, ultimately swamped by special effects. Stars Bruce Willis, director, Robert Zemeckis
Empire (071-497 9999) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

LABYRINTH OF PASSION: Tiresome melodrama with sex-crazed girls, an Arab princeling and budgerigars. Raw juvenilia from Pedro Almodóvar, with Cecilia Roth. Made in 1982.
Metro (071-437 0757).

◆ **OF MICE AND MEN** (PG): Steinbeck's classic Depression tale of friendship and innocence. John Malkovich as the slow-witted Lennie; director Gary Sinise as his protector. Simple, sturdy and moving.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

◆ **PETER'S FRIENDS** (15): College pals meet up after a decade for a glib mixture of laughter and tears. Kenneth Branagh directs Emma Thompson, Stephen Fry, Rita Rudner and himself
Lumière (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **MGM Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914668) **Plaza** (071-497 9999).

◆ **SISTER ACT** (PG): Whoopi Goldberg hides out in a convent. Contrived but disarming, warm-hearted comedy. Maggie Smith as the Mother Superior. Director, Emile Ardolino
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **STRICTLY BALLROOM** (PG): One dancer's fight to defy the rules of the Australian Ballroom Dancing Federation. Ebullient, intoxicating debut by director Baz Luhrmann. With Paul Mercurio, Tara Morice.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **MGM Piccadilly** (071-437 3561) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Renoir** (071-837 8402).

CONCERT REVIEW

Strong on atmosphere

NYOGB/Mogrelia
Barbican

PLAYING with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain is all very well, but there is a penalty if your supportive mum, dad, brother, sister or friend is unaccustomed to the usual etiquette of the concert hall. Such folk can sometimes leave their coughing uncontrolled.

So it happened that often in this concert the noise from the auditorium all but obliterated the music; at the beginning of Penderecki's 1982 Second Cello Concerto, for instance, where for the first time of many the strings play their slowly pulsating, quiet passage which broadens from a monotone into a cluster. For once I did not really mind: surely we had heard that particular cliché before.

By the end of this work I had long tired of other repeated clichés, like the melodic movement that relies heavily on rhythmically unimaginative, meandering semitonal movement — a ploy I recall resorting to too much as an incompetent composition student — or the empty rhetoric of the cello's cadenzas. The sensation in this outwardly complex and technically taxing work of seven sections is of a music being written to fill an available space rather than creating its own. In aiming to be ripe and substantial, it ends up meandering.

Perhaps a cellist more mature than the nevertheless confident and technically well-equipped Alasdair Strange, and one less apt to convert any instruction prefaced by the qualification "poco" into something altogether more "molto", might have served the work better. Yet even the mighty Rostropovich, for whom it was composed, has failed in the past to give the music the illusion of real substance. This orchestra managed quite well, though rapid antiphonal exchanges were often less than slick.

If this was a strange choice of work — I suspect carte blanche had been generously offered to the NYOGB's retiring principal cellist — the opening gambit, Rachmaninov's symphonic poem *The Isle of the Dead*, might have been designed specifically to show off this orchestra's finest qualities. Young people love atmospheric music of this kind, and Andrew Mogrelia, a youngish conductor whose star has lately risen and on this evidence deservedly begun to rise, engineered all the ripeness, mystery and darkness one could want; the NYOGB's usual lavish doubling of wind and brass sections only helped matters.

Six trombones suited Brahms's Second Symphony less well after the interval, but again there were some lovely sounds, notably from the cellos, who enjoyed to the full their big first movement tune. More crucially, Mogrelia's instincts reminded us of the essence of Brahmsian thought, which is the presentation of a single, solid object in continuously changing lights and from ever varying angles.

STEPHEN PETTITT



ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Ave W1 071 439 4805 Walt Disney's **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** (U) Progs at 2.05, 4.10 & 6.15 Adults £3.50 Children £2.50 **MICE AND MEN** (PG) 8.40 only

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Gerard Depardieu in **TOUS LES MATINES DU MONDE** (12) Progs at 1.10 (not Sun) 3.30, 6.00 & 8.25

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd. 071 867 1044 Stephen Rea, Miranda Richardson in **THE CRYING GAME** (18) Progs at 1.10 (not Sun), 3.30, 6.00 & 8.20

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IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY
The vanishing husband by
RAY

هكذا من الأصل

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** on a violent, claustrophobic but intelligent first film by Quentin Tarantino

Cornered canines cut up rough

Reservoir Dogs
MGM Haymarket, 18
L.627 *Lumière, 15*
Raising Cain *Plaza, 15*
Man Trouble
Odeon Haymarket, 15
Danzón *Metro*



Trapped in the aftermath of a crime gone wrong: Mr Orange (Tim Roth) has a wound inspected by Mr White (Harvey Keitel) in Quentin Tarantino's Reservoir Dogs

Here is a startling story of betrayal, violence, loyalty, violence, friendship and violence. Were **Reservoir Dogs** not so skilfully contrived, so endowed with subtly evolving characters, the amount of spilt blood and spent bullets would appal. But the violence cannot be siphoned from the tale that writer-director Quentin Tarantino, an exciting new talent, elects to tell so well.

These "reservoir dogs" (the title is never explained) are mean men, hardened criminals rounded up to rob a Los Angeles diamond dealer. Since one is an undercover cop, the police lie in wait to pounce. At a warehouse rendezvous, survivors gather to writhe from the pain of a lethal stomach wound, slice off a hostage's ear, pin blame and dissect the dismal day.

Tarantino admits to inspiration from Kubrick's classic *The Killing*. But through clever structuring and biting dialogue (four-letter words to the fore) he puts his own spin on the theme of a crime that goes haywire. The botched robbery is never seen; the aftermath becomes sliced by flashbacks that expand on the cryptic characters we only know as Mr White, Orange, Blonde and Pink. This is a man's world: camaraderie one minute, abject cruelty the next.

Tarantino appears as Mr Brown, who quickly succumbs to a bullet in the head. Among those who live longer, Harvey Keitel, the film's co-producer, heads the pack as level-headed Mr White. Tim Roth pockets his English accent for Mr Orange, bleeding profusely most of the time, while Steve Buscemi (Chet the bellhop in *Barton Fink*) gets some of the funniest lines as the prickly Mr Pink, who would rather be Mr Purple.

"Why can't we choose our own colours?" he asks the boss. Since the boss is veteran Lawrence Tierney, who played Dillinger back in 1945 and stands like a lump of granite, he gets short shrift. Michael Madsen's Mr Blonde is even more chilling: a soft-spoken psychopath who warms up to torturing his hostage cop by dancing to his favourite radio show.

In long takes, Tarantino and his cameraman Andrzej Sekula make full use of the warehouse space. With its high-pressured intimacy, the film feels at times like a theatre piece. But the result is pure cinema: *thrilling, frightening, bloated with* blood, redeemed by intelligence.

With Bertrand Tavernier's vivid if overlong **L.627** we jump to the other side of the law. In a seedy Paris, far from the tourists' bright lights, members of the drugs squad fight daily battles against dealers on the street, and the paperwork on their desks. They are underpaid, under-resourced, under-educated, often racist, needlessly violent, over-addicted to practical jokes with water buckets. These are not heroes, but they are Paris's front line defence against drugs, and in their raw prejudices audiences might see their own reflected.

Given his knowledge of movie genres and love for the French "policier", it was only natural that Tavernier should eventually make a detective film. But he follows the modern recipe. Out goes the plot, in comes a maze of detail about police behaviour and procedure; stake-outs; suspects dragged into *custody. The squad members are* seen chaffing, bickering, bullying and kicking. There are no star actors to spread lustre.

On its release in France, up sprang a babble of boos and hurrahs. "A caricature", said the angry Interior Minister, Paul Quiles. The Paris drug squad themselves liked what they saw; so did audiences. In Britain, controversy seems unlikely. For us, television fly-on-the wall docudramas have rubbed the edge off the material. Another drawback is the 145-minute running-time: without a strong story, Tavernier risks making much ado about nothing.

Yet Tavernier is too good a director to induce tedium. We are kept on the ball by naturalistic acting from Didier Bezace, the director's son Nils, and Charlotte Kady; by Philippe Sarde's wonderful music; and by short, sharp scenes. One bungled raid, intended to nail a dealer, only unearths an *indignant user, a young immigrant* mother. In the best parts of *L.627*, you feel the tension shaking the air.

After the naturalistic surface of *L.627* we jump to Brian De Palma's **Raising Cain**, a film without even the pretence of reality. Instead, we get a ludicrous bag of tricks, in-jokes and tongue-in-cheek thrills on the subject of split personalities. Sometimes the hero is Dr Carter Nix, a mild-mannered psychologist with a penchant for kidnapping tots. At other times he is Cain, a sneering demon in a black leather jacket, or Josh, or Margo, or Dr Nix senior. At every turn, though, he is John Lithgow, all cylinders firing, discretion cast to the winds.

Balancing horror and comedy is a difficult art: *Raising Cain* never finds the poise required. De Palma can give audiences the shivers, but he fritters away the film's potential *by directing with a permanent,* aggravating wink. Lolita Davidovich, Lithgow's poor wife, is buffeted by so many cod nightmares that we cease to care what is dream and what is "real". We only know that we are watching trash.

Man Trouble brings no improvement. Two decades ago director Bob Rafelson, Jack Nicholson and screenwriter Carole Eastman produced that seminal portrait of disenchanted man, *Five Easy Pieces*. But this woefully clumsy and unfunny romantic comedy leaves the audience dumbstruck with disbelief.

Ellen Barkin plays an emotionally vulnerable concert singer with security problems. Jack Nicholson is stretched not a whit as the lovable bozo with a guard-dog agency. While Jack grows romantically attached, and a German Shepherd in permanent heat leaps upon the characters, minions of powerful, corrupt Harry Dean Stanton press *him to snatch a kiss-and-tell exposé* written by Barkin's sister (Beverly D'Angelo). If the plot appears stupid, the jokes are worse: and Rafelson lets his talented players just lie there and die. Avoid.

Danzón, glimpsed in Britain during last year's Latin American Film Festival, brings modest relief from these Hollywood turkeys. In her second feature, Mexican director Maria Novaro creates characters that live and breathe, and sets them down in a distinctive setting, the red-light district of Veracruz.

This is a film with a heart. A middle-aged telephone operator and single mother (excellent Maria Rojo) arrives in the port searching for her lost dancing partner. After that, the plot disobligingly peters out, though there remain invigorating music, seductive dance steps, romantic encounters and a sultry atmosphere. And in cold, grey January, at least *Danzón* transports you somewhere hot.

ARTS BRIEFING

Hanging on every word?

WISDOM from ancient Greece is being plastered all over London's Tube trains. The new batch of "Poems on the Underground" — the train posters designed to lift the spirits of weary commuters — includes two fragments by the Greek poet Sappho, written 600 years before the birth of Christ. That makes them even older than some of the trains. Translations have been specially commissioned from Cicely Herbert. Sappho never wasted two words where one would suffice (the two fragments are of 16 and 11 words respectively), but the erotic charge of her poetry should be a tonic for the traveller.

Other poets selected for the Underground are John Clare (whose bicentenary falls this year), the American poet Langston Hughes, John Heath-Stubbs and the Irish contemporary poet Eavan Boland. London Underground provides 4,000 advertising spaces for the poetry.

● SIMON RATTLE's "Towards the Millennium" project — a ten-year survey of the 20th century which has now reached the 1920s — is not all T.S. Eliot and Schoenberg. In Birmingham they will be attempting to recreate the Cotton Club, while at the Festival Hall in London on March 25 there will be a "mass tea dance" in the ballroom. Experienced and novice dancers alike are invited to "dust down your Charleston in a *soigné* celebration of the decade".

Young victors

AUSTRALIAN women dancers have swept the board for the second year running in the annual Digital Genée Awards for young dancers from around the world. The Australian women took gold, silver and bronze medals at the competition at the Festival Hall: the gold medallist was 18-year-old Simone Goldsmith, a recent graduate of the Australian Ballet School. Only two men reached the finals, of whom Shimon Kalichman of Israel received a silver medal and Britain's



Winning student dancer: the Australian Simone Goldsmith

Darren Goldsmith a bronze. The awards, judged by the Royal Academy of Dancing, were presented by former ballerina Antoinette Sibley, president of the RAD and chair of the judges.

Last chance . . .

WHEN Bill Jacklin went to New York in 1986 for a temporary change of scene and subject, he was widely recognised as one of the most accomplished British artists of his generation, though perhaps *slightly in danger of settling for* surface glamour in preference to a deep-seated unease. As the major retrospective of his New York work at the Oxford Museum of Modern Art (0865-722733) shows, New York brought him spectacularly back on course again: as well as bidding fare to do for New York what David Hockney has done for Los Angeles, he emerges mid-career among the most impressive talents in the world today. Until Sunday.

Alternatives to the January sales



Gainsborough's Unknown Couple in a Landscape, temporarily on holiday from Dulwich Picture Gallery, on show at Christie's

John Russell Taylor reviews two timely loan exhibitions at major London auction houses

This is the awkward period of the year for the major auction houses: the auctioneer's *hammer is traditionally silent* between the Christmas/New Year holidays and the beginning of a full programme of sales towards the end of January. So the houses turn to newsworthy loan exhibitions to keep them in the eye of the public.

This year Sotheby's have been perhaps the more enterprising. What they have on offer for two and a half weeks is **Mosaics from Jordan**, a flat-sounding label for a fascinating and delightful show. It is not widely known outside Jordan that the great local speciality, from late Roman to Islamic times, is a sort of home-grown mosaic made out of local stones; therefore, non-precious, restrained in colouring *and forced to make its effect, if any,* by the liveliness of its design rather than the sparkle of gold and glass.

The very existence of these mosaics was long forgotten, until in 1880 the first accidental find was excavated. Since then they have cropped up in an amazing variety of circumstances, some religious, some secular. Not that it is always clear at a glance which are which. Animals, often in lively action, are one inescapable subject; topographical maps or primitive townscapes are another. Both are as likely to be found in a church as in a palace. Human figures occur much less frequently.

Why are so many of these works available for exhibition? Whenever possible the mosaics have been preserved in situ, but not always with the happiest result. The first piece in the show, the floor mosaic from the Chapel of the Priest John in Nebo was, we are told, intact when first uncovered in 1937, but has since suffered so badly from careless visitors that it has had to be removed and conserved. Nebo's misfortune is our gain, in that the figures, the animals and the buildings *depicted in this elaborate* composition of the mid-sixth century are unusually vivid and lifelike.

The floor from the so-called Burnt Palace in Madava retains a similar verve. Perhaps for the novice the most interesting pieces remain the renderings of geography which seem to have preoccupied local artists. In Jordan, notably in the Church of St George in Madava, there are maps covering the floor depicting the whole of the Middle East, but here we are confined to more modest, localised views, somewhere between map and townscape. The feeling of entering immediately into a 6th- or 8th-century world is palpable.

The holiday show at Christie's, **The First National Gallery**, excites less far-reaching activity in the historical imagination. The "first" in question is in fact what we know as the Dulwich Picture Gallery. And indeed it was the specific intention of the triumvirate formed by the dealer Noel Desenfans, his widow and his business partner Sir Francis Bourgeois that the collection they had put together, bequeathed to Dulwich by Beaumont *in 1811, should be the nucleus of a* national gallery of old masters.

Not all the pictures were originally acquired with such a destination in mind. There is a group of works bought by Desenfans from various Christie's sales in the 1790s, not for Britain, but for Poland's King Stanislaw II. They would have gone to Warsaw instead of Dulwich if the king had not abdicated in 1795.

The 40 pictures on show, including Gainsborough and Hogarth as well as Poussin and Claude, do not all go back to the gallery's foundation: one group commemorates *another major benefactor, Charles* Fairfax Murray, who bought British portraits of the 18th and early 19th centuries when they were mostly being siphoned off by Duveen for American collections. Murray gave 40 of them to Dulwich in 1911.

There is a catch in this sudden display of masterworks from Dulwich so close to home. Though the immediate reason they are available for this two-and-a-half-week outing is that the gallery building is being renovated at present, the deeper reason is to draw attention to the financial straits in which Dulwich now finds itself, with insufficient funds from the original *foundation, public money available* only for its directly educational activities, and even the amounts raised from quite successful public appeals in the last seven years not enough to make ends meet.

● **Mosaics from Jordan**, Sotheby's, 1-2 St George Street, W1 (071-493 8080) Mon-Fri 9am-4.30pm, Sun midday-4pm, to January 22.
● **The First National Gallery**, Christie's, 8 King Street, SW1 (071-839 9060) Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, to January 24.

TELEVISION REVIEW: **Matthew d'Ancona** on the return of Clive James in semi-serious mode

Celebrity does not necessarily imply personality

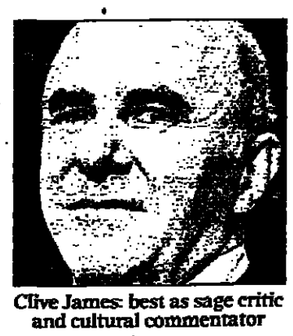
Modernism is probably best defined by Andy Warhol's *aperçu* that everyone is entitled to fame for 15 minutes. Post-modernism, then, is defined by Clive James talking about fame for six weeks.

Last night's opening instalment of **Clive James — Fame in the Twentieth Century** (BBC 1) restored him to his preferred role of cultural commentator after a few years as the thinking man's Dennis Norden, chuckling his way through the quirky by-ways of world television. This was more the Clive James of old, the sage critic unravelling culture in the twinkle of an antipodean eye, and he looked almost as grateful to be back as we were meant to be that he was.

Fame may have been around for a long time, he mused, but it shifted into an entirely different gear in the

sponsible as anyone for the sea-change, having invented sound recording and movies — although like other greats of the 19th century he himself did not become more famous as a result of his own media revolution. This was the programme's most interesting insight: that the fame of Kipling, Queen Victoria and Tolstoy was unaffected by the advent of film. They were invisible to the magic lantern.

Instead, the new medium spawned a new breed of celebrity — the star. Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Valentino came to epitomise this modern, fantastically opulent form of identity, feted wherever they went, overpaid and essentially lonely. Their grip on popular imagination was breathtaking. Some remarkable footage showed the swooning arousal of two women watching Valentino on the



Clive James: best as sage critic and cultural commentator

graph which, of course, was going haywire.

At the end of this yellow brick road stood Madonna, "self-conscious and conscious of nothing else". Yet the more interesting forebear of contemporary culture

president to understand film, who would pose in the wilds as a hunter-statesman for anyone with a camera. And if a president could become a star, then a star could become a president. Enter Ronald Reagan, "a mobile section of Mt Rushmore".

Clive James's wit is not in question. He knows that his audience awaits his next perfectly targeted *bon mot* like a child waits for thunder. He does not want us to like him, merely to acknowledge his role as egg-headed seer of our time.

The subject does not really matter, either. Some may indeed believe that Elvis is alive but their medieval predecessors felt the same about saints. This is an age obsessed by interpretation rather than heroism. James's claim to celebrity is that he knows how to talk about it. Fame? He's going to



Desert stormed by dogs of war

As private secretary to Mrs Thatcher and John Major, Sir Charles Powell found himself at the heart of the Gulf war. An excellent new book evokes his own memories of the conflict

I am sure it is not politically correct to talk of a "model war". But the Gulf conflict came close as dammit to being one. The bad guy wore an unmistakable black hat. His cause and his methods were acknowledged to be wicked. The coalition formed against him was broad. Its war aims were authorised by the United Nations and had solid public support. The military objectives were explicit and clear, the terrain ideal, the generalship outstanding, the loss of life relatively small. Above all, the good guys won a smashing victory.

And yet? At the end there was a strong sense of unfinished business. Getting rid of Saddam and his regime had never been a stated war aim. Even so there was a general expectation that he would not survive defeat but would follow the precedent of his Baathist predecessors by leaving office feet first. He probably still will; but the uncomfortable reality is that he survived defeat with a far from negligible portion of his armed forces intact, and he continues to torment the Shia Muslims and Kurds. Did we fail after all?

This excellent, well-organised and dispassionate account of the war illustrates that there were undoubtedly some mistakes. The first was to build up Saddam's war machine during the Eighties. The motives were not just selfish ones of wanting to maximise arms sales (and the British role here was minimal compared with others); there was a rational attempt to bolster Iraq against the greater evil of a fundamentalist and fanatical regime in Iran. But the unpleasant truth is that the permanent members of the UN Security Council did much to create the monster which they later had to destroy.

Second, we misread Saddam. We thought he could be cajoled and enticed into reasonable policies, when actually we only fed his ambition. The error was compounded by the Americans giving him the wrong diplomatic signal before the war, one of indifference to his dispute with Kuwait.

Third, what is usually referred to as the "failure" of intelligence to predict the start of the war. Actually the intelligence told us exactly what Saddam was doing: the failure lay in assessing his intentions. Here we relied on the assurances of other Arab governments that Iraq was just putting on a show of intimidation towards a smaller neighbour. It was not an unreasonable interpretation but suffered from the major disadvantage of being wholly wrong. (If you want a *real* intelligence failure, how about Saddam's decision to start the war on a day when Bush and Thatcher were known to be meeting?)

A fourth error, and a repeated one in western diplomacy, was to over-estimate the efficacy of sanctions. They ought to work but they don't. If we had relied on sanctions alone, Saddam Hussein would still be in Kuwait.

Fifth, the coalition's war aims were too narrow. There were arguments over this from the beginning, within coalition governments as well as between them. Mrs Thatcher was for relying on the right of self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter, which would have given the coalition the maximum flexibility to determine its objectives as the conflict developed. But without specific war aims endorsed by the UN, it would never have been possible to hold together so broad an international coalition, and above all the Arab members whose participation was politically indispensable. And the US Administration's judgment was that Congressional support for war could only be obtained on the basis of a UN resolution. While it would have been handy to have the flexibility of Article 51 in the last stages of the conflict, in truth the coalition would never have got to the starting line *without* a UN resolution.



August 1990: Margaret Thatcher meets George Bush at Aspen

THE GULF CONFLICT 1990-1991
Diplomacy and War in the New World Order
By Lawrence Freedman and Efraim Karsh
Faber, £20

Lastly, did we stop the war too soon? The answer is that probably we did, by a matter of 24 hours. More Iraqi forces could and should have been destroyed. But I recall no serious discussion at any stage of marching on Baghdad or "liberating" Iraq.

If there were some things we got wrong, there was an awful lot which we got right. The determination from the moment of the Thatcher/Bush meeting in Aspen on the first day of the war not to let Iraq's aggression stand. The demonstration of US will to stand up to dictators (or some of them at least). The superb military skills which transported hundreds of thousands of men and women and their equipment over thousands of miles to fight a war. The pay-off for the investment in keeping at the forefront of military technology, in particular the smart weapons. The demonstration of the efficacy of airpower (and let us hope we shall see it again now in Yugoslavia). The strengthening of the UN by recourse to its institutions and procedures, although hopes of a new world order have been shown to owe more to rhetoric than to reality. The re-validation of the Anglo-US special relationship. The post-war resurrection of Arab/Israeli peace talks. All these sprang from the experience of the Gulf conflict.

And although the main bouquets rightly go to the US, Britain too can take pride in its role. The constant reinforcement by Mrs Thatcher and John Major of President Bush's firm line against pressure from trimmers and wobblers. The unwavering support of British public opinion for the war, a reminder that the British are among the most bellicose of nations once roused in a just cause. As a nation we are entitled to feel proud, especially when we compare our own role with that of some other EC countries. The book reminds us of France's opportunist diplomacy, devoted to brokering any solution so long as it benefited French interests; and Belgium's shabby refusal to sell ammunition when our stocks were depleted because it did not want to take sides.

If I have a criticism of the book, it is the impression it sometimes conveys of pre-ordained success. It certainly didn't feel like that at the time. There was agonising worry over the hostages. There were nagging fears about Iraq's possible use of chemical or germ weapons. There were chilling estimates of potential Allied casualties. And there were a few other distractions, like the final collapse of communism in Europe, losing a prime minister, and the IRA mortar attack on the War Cabinet which came close to success.

Lastly for those involved in these events, the book stirs memories. Here are a few of mine at random. The shock for a desk-jockey bureaucrat of seeing how young the British troops in the Gulf were: there's all the difference in the world between knowing soldiers are teenagers and seeing them in the desert preparing for war. Discovering that I could get from home back to No 10 in the middle of the night in the same time as it took a Scud to fly from Iraq to Israel (having been thoughtfully telephoned at home by Brent Scowcroft to be told they were on the way, and we had no idea what sort of warheads were on the end of them). Elbowing John Major aside in desperation to jump off a helicopter and spend a penny after a long flight from Saudi Arabia to Kuwait, only to find myself confronted by Kate Adie and a BBC TV crew (I settled for the other side of the helicopter in full view of several hundred British servicemen drawn up in review order).

Oh what a lovely war indeed — until one came face to face with death and disfigurement in a destroyed Iraqi convoy, as a pall of smoke and flame hung over the whole of Kuwait. A reminder of how far it is from the cool calm of a Cabinet Room to the crumpled bodies, the bloodshed and the torment which is the reality of war.

Riddles amid the pyramids

Tania Glyde

THE JOURNEY OF IBN FATTOUMA
By Naguib Mahfouz
Doubleday, £13.99

THE WELL OF LIFE
By Nawal El Saadawi
Lime Tree £13.99

The parable must be one literary form least likely to inspire the average Western citizen — there is no place for didactic simplicity in our irreligious, me-and-my-needs-first culture. Symbolism we also find difficult to deal with, requiring us does a few peaceful moments (years) devoid of hackery to fathom. Here are two established Egyptian writers who have attempted both with some success.

Naguib Mahfouz, in winning the 1988 Nobel prize for literature has only recently made the vi jump from the World Writi corner to the shelves of Accepte Modern Greats, although he h been publishing acclaimed sho stories and novels for much of th century. In *The Journey of Ib Fattouma*, a devout Muslim s out to find the land of Gebel, paradise no one has ever manag to reach, although it is frequen discussed. Like Gulliver, Fattoum encounters a totally alien politic system in every country he enters the way. After many difficult yea when Fattouma has Gebel in sig and his account of his trave becomes more joyful, the boo suddenly ends.

Like much of Mahfouz's sho fiction, this novella leaves t reader hanging. Gebel could repr sent nirvana, true acceptance Islam (the traveller's various hos have their own very different inte pretations of it), the elusive fruits ambition, the perfect Egypt, simply death. Importantly for th parabolic purpose, the story cou be set in any age, although even i his earlier *Cairo Trilogy* of histor cal novels, it is ten pages befo Mahfouz even hints at a date which the action takes place.

A criticism of some of Mahfouz later stories is that he plunges in complex political codes, forgettin the needs of the reader. While it true that under a strict regime th writer must use metaphor an allegory to escape jail, Mahfouz ha also, like some artists who hav officially entered their "late" stag sacrificed ease of interpretation f well-intentioned obscurity.

The same could be said Nawaal El Saadawi's late work, *The Well of Life*. courageous campaigner, she too an established writer, but is mo famous for her feminism (an imprisonment for it) than he fiction. This accounts for her escap from World Writing, only to b waylaid at Gender Politics.

The first of the two stories is fa bleaker and less straightforwar than Ibn Fattouma. A woman, Ai El Hayah, grows up, anothe unwanted girl child in a poo peasant family. She becomes prostitute to escape her decrep husband, which works until sh falls pregnant. For the first tim ever she truly owns something This earns her the disapproval c society and she is forced to give u her baby, spending the rest of he life desperately looking for him Society brands her a madwoman Ain (whose name means "well o life") represents mute strivin against the violence of a pitiles world. Although she is not destroy ed by the events of her life, sh might almost as well have been.

The second story, *The Thread*, a more complex, less accessible sel exploration by a patient who doctor cannot discover the reason for her constant pain. El Saadawi i always uncompromising in he criticisms of society. Having worked in Egypt as a doctor and psychiatrist for most of her life, she is in a better position than most to understand the needs of women. As time goes on and things do not change, it is not surprising that she keeps trying to rationalise the terrible things she has seen, even at the cost of absolute readability.

To the realms beyond Tartarus

Anne McElvoy

JOURNEY TO KHIVA
By Philip Glazebrook
HarperCollins, £16

CLAWS OF THE CRAB
Georgia and Armenia in Crisis
By Stephen Brook
Sinclair-Stevenson, £18.50

Philip Glazebrook's odyssey begins and ends in the Travellers' Club in Pall Mall by way of Moscow, Tashkent, Samercand, Bokhara and Khiva. It very nearly ended in the Russian capital when the author fell prey to a knife-wielding thug desirous of the contents of his money belt. I can think of few travellers who would have taken this with Glazebrook's savoir-faire. When subjected to a first aid assault which sounds every bit as terrifying as the attack itself, he delves into his literary treasure chest for succour and fishes out a chunk of de Lagny, who in the 1850s lamented: "The laws are less to be feared than the police, which inspires such terror that everyone shrinks as from a pestilence from receiving or assisting anyone who is ill, wounded or struck with apoplexy."

The remarkable thing about Soviet communism is not the extent to which it mutated the cultures upon which it descended but the way that it fastened onto existing corruption, autarchy, backwardness and isolationism, and embedded them in an ideology which claimed to represent progress. The author resorts regularly to the journals of those travellers who trod his stony path before him, an approach which enriches and complements his own elegant writing.

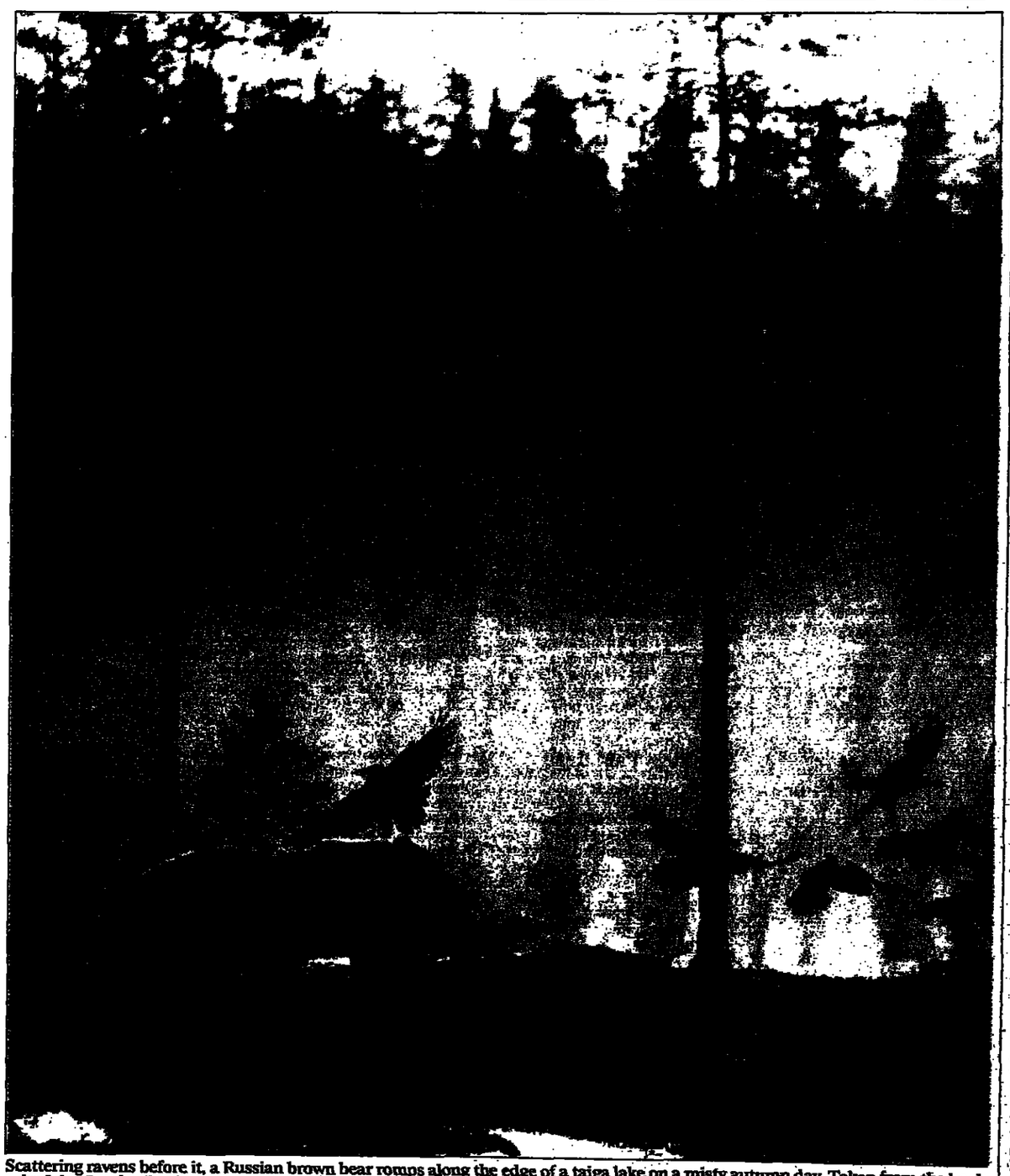
This is a modern adventure inspired by tales of Britain's adventure in Central Asia from 1830 to 1900. The Great Game against Russia, played for control of the routes to British India, was described by the Russian foreign minister Count Nesselrode as "a tournament of shadows", fought by spies and agents in an uncanny anticipation of the Cold War.

It is the grasp of travel as both a geographical and historical trajectory which lends it such depth and resonance, enlivened by a particularly English talent for disgruntlement. The invective against Russia's new mafia is a treat: "loathsome youths salivating their contraband gum in our faces", and one imagines he feels the same about the ill-mannered jeunesse of his native Dorset. This book is pure pleasure. I permitted myself small doses at a time to prolong it, but still wanted more: I hope that Glazebrook will provide similar delights with another journey soon.

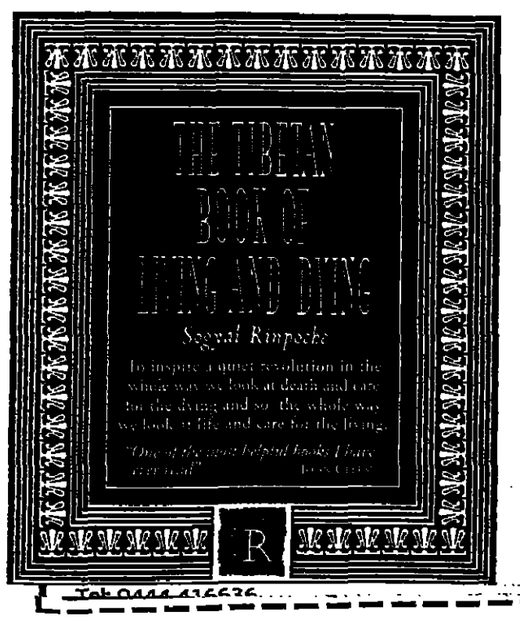
Stephen Brook chooses the ingenue's approach. His outing to Georgia and Armenia is based on his curiosity about two countries which remain for most westerners "blots on the map... pimples on the backs of Turkey and Iran". To be caught up in the sort of events Brook witnessed — Georgia's slide into civil war under its president, Zviad Gamsakhurdia (elected as a dissident but transmogrified into a dictator of more than usual lunacy) and fighting between Armenians and Azeris in the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh — sounds like a gift to the talented writer he undoubtedly is.

But the sheer momentum of events badly overstrains the chosen form, with the result that he is still pottering around in a Baedekerish sort of way while the wars in Georgia and Azerbaijan blaze around him. It is at times like this that the reader curses Brook's descriptions of church interiors or the peculiarities of winemaking, and craves more access to the emotions and grudges which are making his hosts slaughter each other with such energy.

It was not his accounts of the crises which thrilled me — there was a little too much of that naive western tone of head-shaking wonderment at the silliness of the natives — but his comments on the ordinary, his short sketches of familiar scenes from the former Soviet realm. Brook has a knack of meeting fascinating people — something which, as anyone who has ever set out on a journey with that aim knows, is actually an skill in itself rather than a random blessing — and a waspish eye. His book amuses more than it informs. A bit more history would have made all the difference.



Scattering ravens before it, a Russian brown bear romps along the edge of a taiga lake on a misty autumn day. Taken from the book by John Sparks: *Realms of the Russian Bear: A Natural History of Russia and the Central Asian Republics*, BBC Books, £18.95



Tel: 0444 416636

Turning cedar of Lebanon to pulp

Natasha Fairweather

INSHALLAH
By Oriana Fallaci
Chatto & Windus, £15.99

Oriana Fallaci is something of a celebrity in her native Italy. A prize-winning journalist, she is famed for the dispatches which she sent from Saigon during the Vietnam War, for her penetrating and acerbic political profiles, and for the candour with which she lays herself bare in both her fiction and non-fiction. *Inshallah* (meaning "godwilling" in Arabic) is her latest and most ambitious novel.

A hulking tome of a book, Inshallah is conceived as a modern-day Iliad. It has a vast cast of characters and explores the themes of life and death, destiny and fate, against a backdrop of a brutal war. In this case, the setting is the civil war in Lebanon and the majority of the characters are members of the Italian peace-keeping force which was sent to Beirut. Like Homer, Fallaci displays a fondness for stock-epithets, but that is where the similarities end.

Fallaci, in one of three explanatory sections constructed as letters home to an imaginary wife on the part of her fictional alter-ego, attempts to justify the book's existence as a condemnation of the presumptuousness of her epic undertaking. She has had moments of self-doubt, fearing that she has not got "enough fingers to support the strings of [the puppets]" which she has created. Regrettably, she is right.

The unwieldy number of characters, compounded by the lack of sufficient focus on the protagonists, has led to the creation of two-dimensional types who spout set-phrases whenever they appear. Melodrama is substituted for allegorical significance that they lose their relevance. Angelo, our Achilles, does develop a certain degree of self-knowledge during the course of the novel, but we are exposed to him so little that we cannot bring ourselves to care.

Fallaci is not a writer who wears her learning lightly. The text is filled with literary and historic parallels which bog it down, destroying the little suspense and narrative rhythm that she is able to create with her prolix and ponderous style. However, this seems trivial in comparison with the repeated indulgence of conducting entire dialogues in Italian, Arabic, French or Latin, with laborious translations tagging behind.

Which brings us to the subject of the translation. Fallaci has been ill-served by her American editors, her own novel, albeit apparently working from the text of a professional translator. Whatever the reasons behind this decision, the intrinsic faults of the narrative have been greatly magnified by the abysmal quality of the translation and the paucity of both structural and textual editing.

Basic errors of grammar and punctuation abound. Infinitives are split, prepositions muddled, clichés misquoted and sentences constructed in what one assumes to be the Italian manner. The text combines American slang and colloquial half-sentences with antiquated and pompous turns of phrase. To provide a typical example of Fallaci's repetitive style crippled by inadequate English: "It came from the sudden, unexpected, unsuspected discovery that he had wasted his life in respect for a work he no longer respected... It's atrocious to discover that we have wasted our life in respect for work we no longer respect."

It is a shame, because suffocating beneath all the self-indulgent verbiage flickers a wit and understand-

In this Saturday's *Review*:

Peter Ackroyd celebrates Erasmus, hero of the Renaissance and victim of the Reformation; **Philip Howard** writes on the transmission of Greek ideas from Byzantium to Italy; **Roy Foster** admires the paintings of Jack B. Yeats, brother of the poet; **Michael Hofmann** examines a major new anthology of European poetry; **Brian Alderson** enjoys a children's book by William Trevor; plus New Poetry and paperbacks

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هكذا من الأصل

Reputation bruised but still intact

John Grigg praises the latest biography of Churchill, but disagrees with those who say that peace would have been preferable to the policy of unconditional surrender



August 1940. *The Times* commented: "This picture will doubtless be reproduced in Germany as evidence that even the little ones are rising against Mr Churchill. . ."

CHURCHILL
The End of Glory
By John Charmley
Hodder & Stoughton, £30

Five years after Winston Churchill's death Robert Rhodes James published a controversial book about his career up to 1939, entitled *A Study in Failure*. In this the basic assumption is that, by contrast with its earlier vicissitudes, his career after 1939 was an overwhelming triumph. Now, from a young historian born in 1955, the year Churchill finally resigned as prime minister, we have a reappraisal of him which concludes that his whole career ended in comprehensive failure, with all that he had stood for and worked for largely in ruins.

John Charmley is an excellent scholar, and no cheap debunker of the great. He clearly admires Churchill's courage and willpower, no less than his prodigious talent, while recognising that his faults were on the same scale as his virtues. For the opening months of his wartime premiership, in particular, the book has nothing but fervent praise. But thereafter, the author suggests, things began to go seriously wrong.

One among the Allied leaders, Churchill "consistently allowed his horizons to be bound entirely by short- and medium-term considerations". This led him into unnecessary subservience to Roosevelt and, worse still, into appeasement of Stalin ("What would the man of 1938 have said to the Prime Minister of 1944?"). It also led him to neglect domestic politics during the war, so allowing Labour to become identified with the cause of social reform, while he seemed to be trying to block it. As a result, in 1945 the British empire that he had promised to uphold was faced with disintegration; the British independence of which he was ostensibly the supreme champion was fatally compromised; and the socialist policies that he detested came into their own (for a time, at any rate) in Britain.

There are, indeed, strong grounds for criticising Churchill's war leadership after 1940, but is Charmley's critique altogether well-directed? Does he, in particular, believe — as Alan Clark suggested last Saturday — that Britain should have made peace with Nazi Germany in the spring of 1941? If so, he has been careful not to say so explicitly, though one could wish that he had been quite explicit in the opposite sense, because it would surely have been mad, as well as bad, to negotiate again with Hitler at any time. The "peace" envisaged by Clark would have enabled him to establish an empire stretching from Brest to Vladivostok, and who can sensibly imagine that he would then have settled down, posing no further threat to Britain or the rest of the world? All that we know of his personality and methods overwhelmingly indicates the contrary.

Charmley's argument suffers from a certain ambiguity on this cardinal point. Moreover, though he writes with force and, at times, brilliance, his treatment of Churchill's war leadership is flawed by over-concentration on politics in the limited sense, with nothing like adequate discussion of major strategic issues which helped to determine the course of politics during and after the war. For instance, he has little to say about the genesis and implications of the Italian campaign, and literally nothing to say about the attempt to defeat Germany by the terror bombing of civilians. Yet both these matters are connected with the delay in mounting a cross-Channel invasion until 1944, the political consequences of which were disastrous.

If metropolitan France had been liberated and brought back into the war in 1943, and if Churchill had worked closely with de Gaulle instead of quarrelling with him and trying to get rid of him to please Roosevelt (a subject on which Charmley is well-informed), some counterpoise might have been created to American ascendancy within the Western alliance. And if the Western allies had been firmly established on the Continent, preferably already inside Germany, before the Russians had managed to expel the Germans from their own territory, there might have been no question of appeasing Stalin, or of Poland and other East European countries being subjugated.

Charmley makes one passing reference to Churchill's fear, after the fall of Singapore and Tobruk, that the British army might have lost its fighting spirit. But he fails to emphasise the bearing of this fear on his acceptance of advice that invasion across the Channel should be postponed, and alternative ways of winning the war, if possible, found. Though it is widely believed, and not least, apparently, by Charmley, that as minister of defence as well as prime minister Churchill dominated his professional advisers on vital issues, in fact they usually got their way, often against his better judgment.

At that time there was no integrated Ministry of Defence, and the service chiefs had the backing of their huge departments, while he had only a small staff under General Ismay. He kept the chiefs up all hours, and subjected them to interminable monologues, but in the end their views tended to prevail. Thus Alan Brooke was able to inveigle him into the costly sideshow of the campaign in Italy, and Charles Portal (not even mentioned in the book) persuaded him to try to win the war by the indiscriminate bombing of German cities, despite his natural reluctance. Of course the professionals were often right when he was wrong, but on those two issues the verdict of history ought to go heavily against them.

On Gallipoli, Charmley takes a sterner view than Rhodes James, since he does not regard Churchill's role in the affair as having been substantially vindicated in retrospect. On his opposition to Indian constitutional reform in the 1930s the author argues, somewhat perversely, that it was all of a piece with his opposition to appeasement in Europe, and that those who advocated compromise on India "went on to apply the same mind-set to Hitler, both before 1939 and in 1940". This is largely a false correlation. Many who supported Churchill on India did not support him on Europe, and *vice versa* (Macmillan and Boothby, for example). Charmley seems to agree with Churchill that Dominion status would have ensured India's non-participation in the war.

But why? It did not prevent all the self-governing Dominions except Eire from entering the war at the outset, and there is good reason to suppose that a self-governing India would not have acted as Eire did. Jawaharlal Nehru was as strong an opponent of appeasement as his fellow-Harrovian, Churchill, spurning overtures from the European dictators while British leaders were truckling to them. He and many other Indian nationalists were eager to join in the fight for democracy, but were understandably outraged by the British government's declaration of war on behalf of India without reference to the country's elected leaders. Even then, the mistake was not irretrievable, but Churchill's advent to the premiership, so providential in other ways, was a calamity so far as India was concerned.

Despite its considerable length (nearly 650 pages), the book cannot claim to be a full "political biography", since the story is brought to an end in 1945, with the next ten years of political activity, including Churchill's peacetime premiership, disposed of in a last chapter of only three pages. The author has, in any case, quite a lot to say about the personal side as well — rightly, because the distinction between political and personal is essentially spurious — but he does not always get it right. He overlooks Churchill's passionate feelings for Pamela Plowden (later Lytton), whom he wanted to marry but who rejected him. He never ceased to show a great *tendresse* for her, to his wife's fury. At one point Charmley casually applies to him, along with other adjectives, the term "epicene", which ought, surely, to be explained and justified.

There is little to complain of at the factual level. Marlborough was not a soldier "of the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries", and Admiral Keyes's many decorations did not include the Victoria Cross. Moreover, Charmley is apt to be careless about quotations, getting the words wrong in some and misattributing others, notably the famous words of Clough used by Churchill at the end of his broadcast on 27 April 1941, which he attributes to Longfellow. But on the whole the book is a model of accuracy. Above all, it is intensely readable and a stimulus to thought.

Charmley extract, page 13

Jesuitical exercises of a haughty spirit

Piers Paul Read

IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA
The Psychology of a Saint
By W. W. Meissner
Yale University Press, £20

It is difficult to think of a man or woman whose personality has left as distinctive a mark on human history as Ignatius of Loyola. The Society of Jesus which he formed in his own image and likeness largely created the culture of the counter reformation. In such far apart cities as Goa, Lvov, Madrid, Munich or Asuncion, the baroque churches, seminaries, schools and universities remain as evidence of the enormous influence wielded by the Jesuits. Even in our own time, the catastrophic wars of liberation in Central America were often inspired by Jesuits, and the mistrust of Catholicism still to be found in countries like England, Denmark or Russia can be traced back to a reaction against the fanaticism of Ignatius.

W.W. Meissner is a Jesuit but he is also a doctor and a psychoanalyst, now professor of psychoanalysis at Boston College. In his earlier work, *Psychoanalysis and Relgious Experience*, he attempted to synthesise his two fields of knowledge, and in this new "psychobiography" he applies his theories to the founder of his order. It is a courageous thing to do since it risks offending those in both camps. Catholics will not like the idea that Ignatius's visions came from his unconscious. Freudians will not accept that there is a *deus ex machina*. Yet once one has got over a initial resistance to some of his Frudian assumptions and psychoanalytic jargon, Meissner's hyothosis becomes increasingly plausible and significant for our understanding of the spiritual life.

Ignatius was born in 1491, the youngest child of a Basque nobleman, Bertran of Loyola. His mother died soon after, and the baby Inigo (as he was then called) was suckled by a wet nurse, the young wife of the local blacksmith. His father was frequently absent on military campaigns, but the young Inigo was formed in the mould of his family's tradition "instilled with the pride of the Loyolas which called them to be leaders, heroes, extraordinary men". "The life of the Loyolas," Meissner tells us, "was a rich amalgam of deep religious tradition, sincere piety, burning passion and lust, fierce pride, and an attitude of aristocracy and nobility."

When the French besieged Pamplona, Inigo, a young commander, refused to surrender. "His refusal to capitulate," Meissner comments, "even in the face of overwhelming odds, seems foolhardy, if not suicidal . . ." In the ensuing battle, a cannon ball fractured his thigh. Inigo's military career came to an end and he returned to Loyola to recuperate under the care of his beautiful sister-in-law, Magdalena.

With nothing to read but pious works, Inigo's dreams of glory changed from the worldly to the spiritual, and when he recovered he set off on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. At the monastery of Monserrat he gave his clothes to a beggar and left his sword at the shrine of the Madonna. Wearing the sackcloth costume of a pilgrim, he moved down to a cave at Manresa where, after months of "fasts, sleepless nights, vigils, penitential practices like flagellations, and inflicting pain . . . as punitive attacks on the body as the seat and source of physical desire and pleasure", he developed his celebrated *Spiritual Exercises* and the sense of mission which eventually led to the founding of the Society of Jesus.



St Ignatius: a perverted psychotic?

Meissner's account of Inigo's life is well told — an achievement in itself, since most of the sources are cloyingly hagiographic. But simply to follow the story, skipping Meissner's analysis, would be to avoid the challenge of this work. Clearly, to the Freudian, much can be made of the death of Ignatius's mother, followed by his abrupt removal to the castle from the wet nurse in the blacksmith's cottage. Was not his insensate courage at Pamplona, Meissner asks, possibly "an identification with the state of death itself, reflecting an unconscious wish to achieve reunion with the lost parent"? And was not his vision of Our Lady with the child Jesus "the reflection of Inigo's idealised image of his own mother as well as that of Magdalena, toward whom his unconscious libidinal impulses had been stirred"?

And what are we to make of his absent father? "The father, after all, represents to his children the model or image of masculinity, by way of identification for sons, by way of adaption to masculinity for daughters. If the father is inadequate or weak or distant, the identification of his sons must suffer." Thus Inigo, "the brash young courtier", is permeated with signs of phallic narcissism in response either to a "sense of shame derived from an underlying indentification with a weak father figure" (in Inigo's case, weak because absent) or perhaps to "the unconscious shame derived from the fear of castration by an aggressive and hypermasculine father" which he hides behind an "arrogant, assertive, aggressively competitive, often hypermasculine and self-glorifying facade"?

Ignatius's vanity appears to be proved by his undergoing an extremely painful operation simply to remove a lump on his leg; and it was only the terrible, self-inflicted mortifications in the cave at Manresa that changed his worldly "ego ideal" into a total commitment to the will of God. The courage and fanaticism of the Basque soldier was turned upon the enemy within and the flesh so prone to sin. Even later in his life, "witnesses recalled his fasting, the hairshirt he wore at all times, the metal chain with sharp points with which he girded himself, the lacerations and festering wounds on his shoulder from the self-inflicted scourgings."

This militancy and fanaticism extended to the intellectual discipline required of those who joined his order. "To be right in everything, we ought always to hold that the white which I see is black if the Hierarchical Church so decides it." Unlike some other contemporary biographers from the Society of Jesus, Meissner does not play down the commitment of Ignatius and the first Jesuits to blind obedience to the Pope. "To a certain degree, freedom was threatening in the mind of Ignatius and he sought to regulate the risks of his own inner freedom by obsessive devices, constant self-examination and accusation, self-denial and repression of inordinate desires."

To the modern reader, it becomes increasingly clear that Ignatius was a psychotic. Meissner does not shy away from such a conclusion. "In my opinion, Inigo's severe penances were a form of masochistic perversion in that they reflected the degree of intraphysic conflict he endured with regard to his instinctual life." In the same way, sadistic impulses lay behind the disciplines which he imposed upon his followers: "a current of sublimated sexuality — heterosexual in the case of his female adherents, homosexual for his male followers" — of a sadomasochistic sort was the dynamic behind the success of the Society of Jesus.

Meissner goes further, suggesting that "a major contributing factor in the phenomenology of his illness was a form of limbic epilepsy or complex partial seizures". At first sight, this picture of Ignatius as a sexually perverted epileptic seems to confirm the most extreme anti-Jesuit propaganda. But having taking us to the edge of the abyss in an apparently reductionist portrait of Ignatius, Meissner steps back to consider the implications of what he has done. "If Ignatius was in some sense psychotic, what does this imply in the wider arena of human history and human religious experience?"

First of all, the general reader must realise that words like sadism, masochism, narcissism, which we have been horrified to see Meissner apply to a saint, have technical, non-pejorative meanings for the psychoanalyst which remove their sting. "In its fundamental meaning," he writes, "narcissism is an expression of libidinal drives." The libido, as Freud himself said, "is an expression taken from the theory of the emotions of those instincts which have to do with all that may be comprised under the word 'love'."

So too, Ignatius's masochism "is not simply the masochism of the neurotic or the moral masochist; it is masochism suffused with love and placed in the service of a highly narcissistically invested ego ideal, an ideal that is itself imbued with the highest spiritual aims". Thus the diversion of instinctive drives from their primary goal into heroic virtue does detract from the value of that virtue. Meissner has no doubt, for example, that Ignatius's zeal for the reform of prostitutes in Rome came from his suppressed sexuality.

"God moves in a mysterious way/His wonders to perform." From a wordly point of view, Ignatius's piety may have been a sublimation, even a perversion, of his sexual drive; but from a divine perspective, perhaps genital sexual fulfilment is a perversion of piety.

Sinners in high places, saints in the slums

RELIGION

Joe Broderick's **Fall from Grace** (Brandon, £6.99) is a rather vulgar book; I very much enjoyed it. It is an account of the life of Eamonn Casey, the Bishop of Galway whose early affair with an American divorcée, Annie Murphy, was revealed earlier this year and prostrated Catholic Ireland. The Casey affair gave anti-clericals in the Irish media a field-day and it reduced the moral authority of the Irish bishops at a time when the country was wracked by controversies about abortions. Unfortunately for the Church, Annie Murphy and her son Peter turned out to have an unforeseeable talent for self-publicity. Only Casey himself could have bettered their performance on the Oprah Winfrey chat show, but Casey had by then already prudently escaped to America. This, I'm afraid, is a story without any heroes.

The author is an Australian expriest with a racy prose style. He is remarkable as one of the very few chroniclers of the affair to whom Annie Murphy did not confide at length in her own living room. None the less, he has provided an engaging, even-handed account of the whole business. Having read the book, it is hard not to feel sorry for Casey: Annie Murphy emerges as a neurotic woman whose obsessive pursuit of the Bishop was merciless. As for Casey himself, his undoubted arrogance and perilously colourful way of life is balanced here by Broderick's account of the good he did as a priest in his work for the poor and homeless. The book is a good read; it is unlikely to be bettered by Annie Murphy's own account, out next year.

If anything, Charles Raw's book on the Calvi affair, **The Moneychangers** (Harvill, £20), bristles with even more human interest: in this particular scandal there's another disgraced archbishop, a corpse dangling from Blackfriars bridge, the Freemasons and the Mafia — you couldn't ask for more really. Yet I found *The Moneychangers* utterly impenetrable. Raw is a journalistic investigator with an impeccable pedigree as a former finance editor of the *Guardian* and author of a book on the Slater Walker affair. But he had his work cut out in producing a readable guide to this hideously complicated business. When a joint Vatican-Italian commission on the Banco Ambrosiano scandal remarked that what had emerged was a complicated web of facts, documents and opinions, from which it was extremely difficult to distinguish truth from falsehood, it could have been writing a review of *The Moneychangers*.

Even given that I had a keen interest in the scandal, I was baffled by the sheer weight of detail that Raw musters in bringing his case. Again and again I hurled myself at the prose and retired, baffled. For a reader with tenacity, an interest in finance and a retentive memory, the book must be compulsive reading. For the rest of us, it's simply tantalising. But even I gathered that the Vatican's explanations of events simply don't match up with reality. Raw's account seems to reinforce the contention that Archbishop Paul Marcinkus was an accomplice of Roberto Calvi in a fraud that was to cost the Vatican over $500 million. That was money provided by ordinary Catholics that should have been spent on schools, hospitals and the poor. It strikes me as shameful that the money of the faithful has been abused, that the archbishop has never been punished for his conduct, that the finances of the Vatican body which he headed remain opaque. Plainly, Raw's next task is to produce a slim paperback volume, the idiot's guide to the Calvi affair.

After all this, it comes as a welcome relief to turn to a couple of biographies of Mother Teresa. One — **Mother Teresa** (Sinclair-Stevenson, £16.99) — is written by a Hindu civil servant, Navin Chawla; the other — **Mother Teresa: A Life in Pictures** (Bloomsbury, £14.99) — is by an Anglican clergyman, Roger Royle. Of the two, Chawla's is by far the more comprehensive. It says much about the universality of Mother Teresa's appeal that accounts of her life by non-Catholics and non-Christians alike are almost invariably adulatory. I confess I had reservations about her before reading these biographies: she is said to be despotic in her style, authoritarian with her nuns and pig-headed in her refusal to accept any state aid for her work.



Bishop Casey: prudent escape

But for all that, she is a woman apart, who makes no distinction between Hindu and Christian, and has taken on a task helping the poorest of the poor which no one else could have entertained because of its magnitude. She may indeed be despotic, but the great thing is, she gets things done, and she could not do so unless she were firmly convinced that she was doing the work of God. Chawla is particularly good on this point, which might only strike a Hindu, that unless Mother Teresa saw Christ in the afflicted, she could not help them in the way she does. If this is, as Germaine Greer maintains, "religious imperialism", it is justified in its fruits.

MELANIE MCDONAGH

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The Times calendar of rugby union 1993

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Lions lead the pack in busy international year

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

NOW that South Africa have returned to the international circuit, 1993 will be as busy a year in rugby union's calendar as any. The first British Isles team for ten years visits New Zealand, the first South African team for 22 years visits Australia while the two Antipodean giants both visit the northern hemisphere in the autumn.

Absent, of course, is a World Cup, that invention of the 1980s which threatens the future of British Isles tours because conflicting national interests aimed at the four-yearly tournament reduce the opportunity for the four home unions to come together as the Lions.

But that composite entity is still valued by the players of Britain and Ireland; the burden rests, therefore, with those same players to convince the southern hemisphere that Lions tours should continue.

South Africans may need little convincing, the Lions are writ so large in their history. New Zealand, too, have epic memories even though the lacklustre Lions of 1983 may have muddied them. But the Australians, latecomers to the Lions tradition, lack the same enthusiasm. Australia had to wait until 1989 for its first exclusive Lions tour, and when it came it was not an enjoyable experience.

The Wallabies lost the series 2-1 amid controversy emanating largely from the unacceptable aggression of one match, the second international at Brisbane. The consequence has been the Australian push for a southern-hemisphere tournament to rival the five nations' championship in the north.

That has yet to materialise. No doubt the "Super Ten" tournament — between the leading provincial teams in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, and the leading Pacific nation — in April will be scrutinised closely to see how players react to the strains of travel and match play. In the same season Australia will play both New Zealand — in a one-off Bledisloe Cup match in Dunedin in July — and South Africa in a three-match series.

Since New Zealand will, by then, have played the Lions, the pecking order for 1993 will have been firmly established by the time Britain and Ireland resume domestic operations in September. Indeed, it is an All Black shadow which falls across British rugby because they remain the yardstick for progress: can Britain and Ireland combined beat the Blacks, and can Scotland and England singly do the same at home?

Success against the major southern-hemisphere powers is the primary motivation for the England management, whose players are likely to provide the bulk of the Lions.

Scotland need little motivation to do well against New Zealand. There is a spiritual bond between them which has grown stronger during the last decade as successive Scottish coaches have modelled their teams on All Black lines.

But the intriguing aspect of this season, even allowing for England's tilt at an unprecedented third successive grand slam, will be the renaissance of Wales and their consequent contribution to the Lions party. In 1989 the Lions' international XV for the two successful internationals included only three Welshmen and lacked the style and wit that the Welsh have provided to the most successful Lions tours of the past.

Wales's first match of the five nations' season is against England at Cardiff on February 6, and they will need no greater motivation to begin well, such are the indignities England have heaped upon them in the last three meetings.

At first glance the leadership of the Lions would appear to be between two players, England's Will Carling and Scotland's Gavin Hastings. Hastings has been a Lion but comes late to international captaincy, this being his first season; moreover, full back is seldom the ideal position from which to lead a team, while Carling, closer to the action at centre, has the cast-iron record of two grand slams behind him.

The itinerary agreed for the Lions does the players no favours. It is ironic that the New Zealand Rugby Union should now be prevaricating over a proposed itinerary for their tour of England and Scotland next autumn that gives them three successive "internationals" — against Scotland, England and the Barbarians — whe the Lions face what amounts to four "international" weekends in the trot.

They open the three-match eries on June 12, play the powerful Auckland brimming with All Blacks on June 19, and then two further internationals. Since they play Waikato, the provincial champions, in between the las two matches and Otago, the provincial runners-up, the Saturday before the first international, it is difficult to understand what New Zealand have to object to.

Their travails will be reported back home more faithfully than ever before if ITV Sport kep to their proposed schedule, while South Africa's trek through Australia is also likely to receive good television coverage. France, too, will be in the limelight, since they tour South Africa in May and receive Australia in the autumn; that will be an instructive examination of their strength in depth.

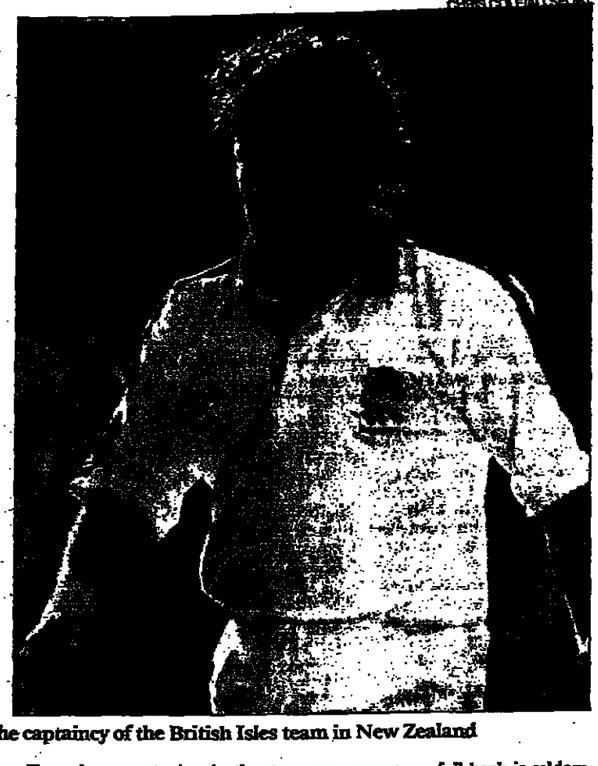
At the same time, the 1995 World Cup will not be forgotten. (How could we? Any international tournament scheduled for South Africa bears very close scrutiny.) Although details have yet to be worked out, qualifying tournaments will continue durin 1993 and, at the beginning of next season, will probably involv Wales against the likes of Spain and Portugal.

Oh, and keep an eye ut for Latvia. Where can you see Latvia playing international rugby this season? The answer: in Edinburgh, where they compete in mid-April in the inaugural Rugby Worl Cup sevens tournament.

RUSSELL CHEYNE/ALLSPORT



CHRIS COLE/ALLSPORT



Leading Lions: Hastings, left, and Carling, rivals for the captaincy of the British Isles team in New Zealand

ENGLAND'S GRAND SLAM YEARS

1991

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	4	4	0	0	83	44	8
France	4	3	0	1	91	46	6
Scotland	4	2	0	2	81	73	4
Ireland	4	0	1	3	66	86	1
Wales	4	0	1	3	42	114	1

1992

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England	4	4	0	0	118	29	8
France	4	2	0	2	75	62	4
Scotland	4	2	0	2	47	56	4
Wales	4	2	0	2	40	63	4
Ireland	4	0	0	4	46	116	0

A GUIDE TO THE INTERNATIONAL FIXTURES AND EVENTS

JANUARY

9: Courage clubs championship: First division: Bath v Rugby; London Irish v Gloucester; London Scottish v West Hartlepool; Northampton v Leicester; Orrell v Harlequins; Saracens v Wasps. Second division: Blackheath v Rosslyn Park; Coventry v Richmond; Newcastle Gosforth v Wakefield; Nottingham v Fylde; Sale v Moseley; Waterloo v Bedford. Third division: Askeans v Aspatria; Broughton Park v Otley; Exeter v Havant; Liverpool St Helens v Clifton, Redruth v Sheffield. Fourth division north: Durham City v Rotherham; Harrogate v Preston Grasshoppers; Hereford v Stourbridge, Kendal v Towcestrians, Nuneaton v Walsall; Stoke-on-Trent v Wimnington Park. Fourth division south: Basingstoke v Metropolitan Police; Camborne v Southend; High Wycombe v Maidstone, Lydney v London Welsh; North Walsham v Sudbury; Weston-super-Mare v Thurrock.
Heineken League: First division: Swansea v Maesteg; Aberavon v Newbridge.
McEwan's League: First division: Boroughmur v Edinburgh Academicals; Heriot's FP v Watsonians; Glasgow High Kelvinside v Melrose, Selkirk v Currie; Kelso v Hawick, Dundee HSFP v Stirling County; Gala v Jed-Forest. Second division: Stewart's Melville FP v Kilmarnock; Ayr v Edinburgh Wanderers; Peebles v Dunfermline; West of Scotland v Preston Lodge FP; Clarkston v Glasgow Academicals; Musselburgh v Grangemouth; Kirkcaldy v Wigtownshire
All-Ireland League: First division: Young Munster v Greystones, St Mary's College v Dungannon, Ballymena v Old Wesley. Second division: Old Crescent v Dolphin, Bangor v Instonians; Lansdowne v Blackrock; Clontarf v Wanderers, Terenure College v Galwegians.
10: All-Ireland League: First division: Garryowen v Shannon
13: Heineken League: First division: Bridgend v Pontypool
15: Representative matches: England A v France Espoirs, Leicester; Scotland under-21 v Ireland under-21, Edinburgh, English Students v Welsh Students, Cambridge, Scottish Students v Irish Students, Raeburn Place, Edinburgh
Heineken League: First division: Swansea v Llanelli
16: Five nations' championship: England v France, Twickenham, Scotland v Ireland, Murrayfield
Heineken League: First division: Newbridge v Pontypridd, Newport v Neath; Cardiff v Maesteg, Bridgend v Pontypool, Aberavon v South Wales Police. Second division: Penarth v Glamorgan Wanderers, Aberthen v Tenby United; Llanharan v Tredegar, Ebbw Vale v Cross Keys, Narberth v Blaina, LLandovery v Dunvant
23: Pilkington Cup: Fourth round: Harlequins v Wakefield, Northampton v Newcastle Gosforth Nottingham v Leicester, Redruth v Exeter Rugby v Moseley, Wasps v Saracens, Waterloo v Orrell, West Hartlepool v Morley.
Swalec Cup: Fifth round: Cardiff v St Peter's, Pontypridd v Pencoed; Ivenhoe Hill v Llanelli, Tumisian v Bonymaen, Pyle v North Cwmcrach v Cross Keys, Cardiff Quins v Builth Wells, Tredegar v South Wales Police, Fleur de Lys v Bridgend, Pentyrch United v Newport, Colwyn Bay v Pontypool, Tonyrefail v Dunvant, Tenby United v Swansea, Llandovery v Tondu; Abercarn v Talywain, Tumble v Newbridge.
Heineken League: Second division: Penarth v Aberthen
McEwan's League: First division: Watsonians v Glasgow High Kelvinside, Edinburgh Academicals v Heriot's FP, Stirling County v Boroughmur; Hawick v Dundee HSFP, Kelso v Gala, Currie v Jed-Forest, Melrose v Selkirk. Second division: Edinburgh Wanderers v Peebles, Kilmarnock v Ayr; Grangemouth v Stewart's Melville FP; Glasgow Academicals v Musselburgh Clarkston v Kirkcaldy, Preston Lodge FP v Wigtownshire; Dunfermline v West of Scotland
All-Ireland League: First division: Cork Constitution v Young Munster; Greystones v Garryowen; Shannon v St Mary's College, Dungannon v Ballymena, Second division: Galwegians v Wanderers; Old Crescent v Bangor; Lansdowne v Dolphin; Terenure College v Clontarf; Blackrock College v Instonians.

FEBRUARY

3: Representative match: England A v Italy, Bath.
5: Representative matches: France under-21 v Scotland under-21, Paris; Welsh Students v English Students, Llanelli; French Students v Scottish Students, Valence
6: Five nations' championship: France v Scotland, Paris; Wales v England, Cardiff.
B international: Holland v Wales, s'Hertogenbosch.
All-Ireland League: First division: Cork Constitution v St Mary's College; Greystones v Ballymena, Shannon v Old Wesley. Second division: Bangor v Lansdowne; Dolphin v Galwegians; Clontarf v Old Crescent; Instonians v Terenure College; Wanderers v Blackrock College.
7: All-Ireland League: First division: Young Munster v Garryowen.
13: Courage clubs championship: First division: Gloucester v Bath; Harlequins v Bristol; Leicester v Orrell; Rugby v Northampton; Wasps v London Irish; West Hartlepool v Saracens. Second division: Bedford v Nottingham; Fylde v Blackheath, Moseley v Waterloo; Richmond v Newcastle Gosforth; Rosslyn Park v Coventry; Wakefield v Morley. Third division: Aspatria v Exeter; Clifton v Plymouth Albion; Havant v Liverpool St Helens; Leeds v Askeans; Otley v Redruth. Fourth division north: Preston Grasshoppers v Durham City; Rotherham v Lichfield, Stourbridge v Stoke-on-Trent; Towcestrians v Nuneaton; Walsall v Harrogate; Winnington Park v Kendal. Fourth division south: London Welsh v Berry Hill; Maidstone v Lydney; Metropolitan Police v Camborne, Southend v High Wycombe; Sudbury v Weston-super-Mare, Thurrock v Basingstoke.
Heineken League: First division: Maesteg v Pontypridd; Aberavon v Neath, Cardiff v Llanelli, Swansea v Pontypool; Newbridge v South Wales Police, Newport v Bridgend. Second division: Tredegar v Glamorgan Wanderers; Narberth v Tenby United; Llanharan v Dunvant, Llandovery v Cross Keys, Penarth v Blaina; Abertillery v Ebbw Vale.
McEwan's League: First division: Boroughmuir v Hawick; Heriot's FP v Stirling County; Glasgow High Kelvinside v Edinburgh Academicals; Selkirk v Watsonians; Jed-Forest v Melrose; Dundee HSFP v Kelso; Gala v Currie. Second division: Stewart's Melville FP v Glasgow Academicals; Ayr v Grangemouth; Peebles v Kilmarnock, West of Scotland v Edinburgh Wanderers, Wigtownshire v Dunfermline; Musselburgh v Clarkston. Kirkcaldy v Preston Lodge FP.
All-Ireland League: First division: Ballymena v Cork Constitution; Dungannon v Shannon; St Mary's College v Young Munster; Old Wesley v Greystones. Second division: Old Crescent v Galwegians; Clontarf v Bangor; Instonians v Lansdowne; Blackrock College v Terenure College, Wanderers v Dolphin.
Provincial Insurance Cup: Semi-finals.
19: Representative match: Scotland under-21 v Wales under-21, Edinburgh.
20: Five nations' championship: Ireland v France, Dublin; Scotland v Wales, Murrayfield.
ADT county championship semi-finals: Cornwall v Yorkshire, Redruth; Lancashire v Middlesex, tba.
21: France Espoirs v Italy, tba.
27: Pilkington Cup: Quarter-finals.
Swalec Cup: Sixth round.
McEwan's League: First division: Watsonians v Jed-Forest; Edinburgh Academicals v Selkirk; Stirling County v Glasgow High Kelvinside; Hawick v Heriot's FP; Kelso v Boroughmuir; Dundee HSFP v Gala; Melrose v Currie. Second division: Edinburgh Wanderers v Wigtownshire; Kilmarnock v West of Scotland, Grangemouth v Peebles; Glasgow Academicals v Ayr; Clarkston v Stewart's Melville FP; Musselburgh v Kirkcaldy; Dunfermline v Preston Lodge FP.

MARCH

5: Representative matches: England A v Spain, Richmond; Wales B v Ireland B, Newport; English Students v Scottish Students, Basingstoke.
6: Five nations' championship: England v Scotland, Twickenham; Wales v Ireland, Cardiff.
10: East Midlands v Barbarians, Northampton.
13: Courage clubs championship: First division: Bath v Wasps; Bristol v Leicester; London Irish v West Hartlepool; Northampton v Gloucester; Orrell v Rugby, Saracens v London Scottish. Second division: Blackheath v Bedford; Coventry v Fylde; Newcastle Gosforth v Rosslyn Park; Morley v Richmond, Nottingham v Moseley; Waterloo v Sale. Third division: Askeans v Sheffield; Exeter v Leeds; Liverpool St Helens v Aspatria; Plymouth Albion v Havant; Redruth v Broughton Park. Fourth division north: Durham City v Walsall; Harrogate v Towcestrians; Kendal v Stourbridge; Lichfield v Preston Grasshoppers; Nuneaton v Winnington Park; Stoke-on-Trent. Fourth division south: Basingstoke v Sudbury; Berry Hill v Maidstone; Camborne v Thurrock; High Wycombe v Metropolitan Police, Lydney v Southend; Weston-super-Mare v North Walsham
Heineken League: First division: Pontypridd v Newport; Neath v Cardiff; Pontypool v Aberavon; Llanelli v Newbridge; Bridgend v Swansea; South Wales Police v Maesteg. Second division: Glamorgan Wanderers v Abertillery; Tenby United v Llanharan; Cross Keys v Narberth; Dunvant v Penarth; Ebbw Vale v LLandovery; Blaina v Tredegar.
McEwan's League: First division: Boroughmuir v Dundee HSFP; Heriot's FP v Kelso; Glasgow High Kelvinside v Hawick; Selkirk v Stirling County; Jed-Forest v Edinburgh Academicals; Currie v Watsonians; Gala v Melrose. Second division: Stewart's Melville FP v Musselburgh; Ayr v Clarkston; Peebles v Glasgow Academicals; West of Scotland v Grangemouth; Wigtownshire v Kilmarnock; Preston Lodge FP v Edinburgh Wanderers, Kirkcaldy v Dunfermline.
17: Universities Athletic Union: final, Twickenham.
19: Representative matches: Ireland A v England A, Dublin. Irish Students v English Students, Dublin; French Students v Welsh Students, Nantes.
20: Five nations' championship: France v Wales, Paris; Ireland v England, Dublin. Representative match: Scotland A v France Espoirs, Aberdeen.
27: Courage clubs championship: First division: Gloucester v Orrell; Leicester v Harlequins; London Scottish v London Irish; Rugby v Bristol; Wasps v Northampton; West Hartlepool v Bath. Second division: Bedford v Coventry; Fylde v Newcastle Gosforth; Moseley v Blackheath; Richmond v Wakefield; Rosslyn Park v Morley; Sale v Nottingham. Third division: Aspatria v Plymouth Albion; Havant v Clifton; Leeds v Liverpool St Helens; Otley v Askeans; Sheffield v Exeter. Fourth division north: Hereford v Kendal; Preston Grasshoppers v Rotherham; Stourbridge v Nuneaton; Towcestrians v Durham C; Walsall v Lichfield; Winnington Park v Harrogate. Fourth division south: Maidstone v London Welsh; Met Police v Lydney; North Walsham v Basingstoke; Southend v Berry Hill; Sudbury v Camborne; Thurrock v High Wycombe.
Heineken League: First division: South Wales Police v Pontypridd; Newbridge v Neath; Cardiff v Pontypool; Aberavon v Bridgend; Maesteg v Llanelli; Swansea v Newport. Second division: Blaina v Glamorgan Wanderers; Penarth v Tenby United; Llanharan v Cross Keys; Narberth v Ebbw Vale; Tredegar v Dunvant; Llandovery v Abertillery.
27-28: Hong Kong sevens.

APRIL

3: Courage clubs championship: First division: Bath v London Scottish; Bristol v Gloucester; Harlequins v Rugby; London Irish v Saracens; Northampton v West Hartlepool; Orrell v Wasps. Second division: Blackheath v Sale; Coventry v Moseley; Newcastle Gosforth v Bedford; Morley v Fylde; Nottingham v Waterloo; Wakefield v Rosslyn Park. Third division: Askeans v Broughton Park; Clifton v Aspatria; Exeter v Otley; Liverpool St Helens v Sheffield; Plymouth Albion v Leeds. Fourth division north: Durham City v Winnington Park; Harrogate v Stourbridge; Kendal v Stoke-on-Trent; Lichfield v Towcestrians; Nuneaton v Hereford; Rotherham v Walsall. Fourth division south: Basingstoke v Weston-super-Mare; Berry Hill v Metropolitan Police; Camborne v North Walsham; High Wycombe v Sudbury; London Welsh v Southend; Lydney v Thurrock.
Heineken League: First division: Pontypridd v Swansea; Neath v Maesteg; Bridgend v Cardiff; Pontypool v Newbridge; Newport v Aberavon; Llanelli v South Wales Police. Second division: Glamorgan Wanderers v Llandovery; Tenby United v Tredegar; Ebbw Vale v Llanharan; Cross Keys v Penarth; Abertillery v Narberth; Dunvant v Blaina. Cardiff v Barbarians.
12: Swansea v Barbarians.
16-18: IRFB sevens, Murrayfield.
17: Representative match: Italy v Scotland A, tba.
ADT county championship: final, Twickenham.
Heineken League: First division: Llanelli v Pontypridd; South Wales Police v Neath; Cardiff v Newport; Maesteg v Pontypool; Newbridge v Bridgend; Aberavon v Swansea. Second division: Dunvant v Glamorgan Wanderers; Blaina v Tenby United; Llanharan v Abertillery; Tredegar v Cross Keys; Penarth v Ebbw Vale; Narberth v Llandovery.
24: Courage clubs championship: First division: Gloucester v Harlequins; London Scottish v Northampton; Rugby v Leicester; Saracens v Bath; Wasps v Bristol; West Hartlepool v Orrell. Second division: Bedford v Morley; Fylde v Wakefield; Moseley v Newcastle Gosforth; Rosslyn Park v Richmond; Sale v Coventry; Waterloo v Blackheath. Third division: Aspatria v Havant; Broughton Park v Exeter; Leeds v Clifton; Otley v Liverpool St Helens; Redruth v Askeans; Sheffield v Plymouth Albion. Fourth division north: Hereford v Harrogate; Stoke-on-Trent v Nuneaton; Stourbridge v Durham City; Towcestrians v Rotherham; Walsall v Preston Grasshoppers; Winnington Park v Lichfield. Fourth division south: Metropolitan Police v London Welsh; North Walsham v High Wycombe; Southend v Maidstone; Sudbury v Lydney; Thurrock v Berry Hill; Weston-super-Mare v Camborne.
Swalec Cup: semi-finals.

MAY

1: Pilkington Cup: final, Twickenham.
Representative match: England under-21 v French Armed Services under-21, Twickenham.
Heineken League: First division: Pontypridd v Aberavon; Neath v Llanelli; Swansea v Cardiff; Pontypool v South Wales Police; Newport v Newbridge; Bridgend v Maesteg. Second division: Glamorgan Wanderers v Narberth; Tenby United v Dunvant; Llandovery v Llanharan; Cross Keys v Blaina; Abertillery v Penarth; Ebbw Vale v Tredegar.
3: Worthington national tens, Gloucester.
8: Swalec Cup: final, Cardiff.
Middlesex sevens, finals, Twickenham.
May-June: Scotland tour to Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa, Wales development tour to Zimbabwe and Namibia.
15: British Columbia v England, Victoria or Vancouver.
19: United States development XV v England, tba.
22: North Auckland v British Isles, Whangarei; United States v England, San Francisco.
26: North Harbour v British Isles, Auckland; Pacific Coast XV v England, San Francisco.
29: Maoris v British Isles, Wellington; Canada v England, Vancouver; Fiji v Scotland, Suva.
30: France Espoirs v Morocco, tba.

JUNE

2: Canterbury v British Isles, Christchurch; Ontario v England, Toronto.
5: Otago v British Isles, Dunedin; Cuadia v England, Toronto; Tonga v Scotlan tba.
8: Southland v British Isles, Invercarg
9: South African province v French XI
12: First international: New Zealand British Isles, Christchurch.
Western Province v French XV, Cap Town; Western Samoa v Scotland, Apia.
16: Taranaki v British Isles, New Pinouth; Orange Free State v Franc XV, Bloemfontein.
19: Auckland v British Isles, Aukland; Transvaal v French XV, Johannesbu.
22: Hawke's Bay v British Isles, NapieSouth African province v French XV
23: Australian Capital Territory v Japa, Canberra.
26: Second International: New Zeland v British Isles, Wellington.
First International: South Africa v lance, Pretoria.
New South Wales Country v Tonga, a.
29: Waikato v British Isles, Hamilton;South African province v French XV, East Lodon, Queensland Country v Tonga, tba.

JULY

July: England under-21 tour to Australia
3: Third International: New Zealand v Irish Isles, Auckland.
Second International: South Afric v France, Durban.
Australia v Tonga, Brisbane.
4: West Coast-Buller v Western Samoa, Westport.
7: Marlborough v Western Samoa, Blenhim.
11: NZ Universities v Western Samoa, Palmerston North.
14: Western Australia v South Africa, Perl
17: International: New Zealand v Austria, Dunedin.
South Australia President's XV v Sath Africa, Adelaide.
18: King Country v Western Samoa, Te Kti.
21: Victoria President's XV v South Afca, Melbourne; Counties v Western Samoa, Pukekohe.
24: New South Wales v South Africa, Concord, Sydney; Australia under-21 v Englnd under-21, Concord.
25: New Zealand v Western Samoa, Auckland.
27: New South Wales-Country v South Afca, tba.
31: First International: Australia v South Afcan, Sydney.

AUGUST

4: Australian Capital Territory v South Afca, Canberra.
8: Queensland v South Africa, Brisbane.
11: Queensland Country v South Africa, a.
14: Second International: Australia v Sath Africa, Brisbane.
18: Sydney v South Africa, Penrith.
21: Third International: Australia v Sath Africa, Sydney.

OCTOBER

Oct-Nov: New Zealand tour of Scotland and England. Australian tour of France (date for both tours to be confirmed).

NOVEMBER

20: International: Scotland v New Zealnd, Edinburgh.
27: International: England v New Zealnd, Twickenham.

DECEMBER

4: Barbarians v New Zealand, Cardiff.
7: University match: Oxford v Cambdge, Twickenham.
18: Spain v Scotland A, tba.
27: Scotland A v Ireland A, Edinburgh.

Compiled by Denis Tingay

TABLES FROM ENGLAND, SCOTLAND

Courage clubs championship

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wasps	6	6	0	0	106	50	12
Bath	6	5	0	1	155	50	10
Leicester	7	5	0	2	137	84	10
Northampton	6	5	0	1	73	59	10
Bristol	7	4	0	3	85	93	8
London Irish	7	4	0	3	104	137	8
Harlequins	7	3	1	3	125	107	7
London Scottish	7	3	1	4	110	97	5
Gloucester	6	2	0	4	79	82	4
Orrell	6	2	0	4	53	100	4
W Hartlepool	6	1	0	5	60	83	2
Saracens	7	1	0	6	55	118	2
Rugby	6	1	0	5	50	133	2

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
N Gosforth	6	6	0	0	122	37	12
Waterloo	7	6	0	1	127	77	12
Nottingham	7	5	0	2	190	83	10
Sale	7	4	1	2	138	53	9
Wakefield	7	4	1	2	97	56	9
Bedford	6	3	2	1	83	86	8
Moseley	6	2	2	2	93	82	6
Blackheath	6	2	1	3	84	126	5
Coventry	6	2	0	4	98	100	4
Richmond	7	2	0	5	120	126	4
Rosslyn Park	6	2	0	4	78	95	4
Fylde	6	0	1	5	59	156	1
Morley	7	0	0	7	42	252	0

Third division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Havant	6	5	1	0	99	44	11
Redruth	8	5	1	2	112	69	11
Otley	6	5	0	1	142	60	10
Exeter	5	4	1	0	122	62	9
Clifton	6	3	1	2	126	76	7
Sheffield	6	3	0	3	77	85	6
Liverpool St H	5	2	0	3	69	69	4
Leeds	5	2	0	3	85	105	4
Askeans	5	2	0	3	53	113	4
Broughton Pk	7	1	0	6	84	147	2
Aspatria	5	1	0	4	68	145	2
Plymouth Alb	6	0	0	6	66	129	0

Fourth division north

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rotherham	7	6	1	0	129	69	13
Preston G	7	6	0	1	97	61	12
Harrogate	6	5	1	0	171	54	11
Lichfield	7	5	0	2	183	119	10
Stoke	7	4	0	3	123	91	8
Walsall	6	3	0	3	76	83	6
Kendal	7	3	0	4	99	131	6
Winnington Park	6	2	1	3	60	73	5
Stourbridge	6	2	0	4	88	65	4
Durham City	6	2	0	4	96	141	4
Nuneaton	6	1	0	5	66	161	2
Hereford	6	0	1	5	49	115	1
Towcestrians	5	0	0	5	45	99	0

Fourth division south

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
London Welsh	7	6	0	1	191	85	12
Sudbury	6	5	1	0	195	52	11
Lydney	6	4	0	2	88	90	8
Met Police	6	3	1	2	118	102	7
Berry Hill	7	2	3	2	112	105	7
Weston-s-Mare	7	3	1	3	89	100	7
Camborne	6	3	1	2	87	83	7
Basingstoke	7	3	0	4	104	109	6
N Walsham	7	3	0	4	82	132	6
Southend	6	2	1	3	84	77	5
Maidstone	7	2	0	5	70	166	4
High Wycombe	5	1	0	5	73	99	2
* Thurrock	6	1	0	5	68	173	0

* 2 points deducted

McEwan's League

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melrose	8	7	0	1	191	74	14
Boroughmuir	8	6	0	2	183	101	12
Edinburgh Ac	8	6	0	2	188	111	12
Gala	7	6	0	1	159	97	12
Jed-Forest	7	4	1	2	99	106	9
Kelso	8	4	0	4	163	184	8
Glasgow HK	7	3	0	4	177	133	6
Hawick	7	3	0	4	141	120	6
Watsonians	8	3	0	5	130	147	6
Currie	6	3	0	3	105	126	6
Stirling Co	7	2	0	5	83	104	4
Selkirk	7	2	0	5	105	216	4
Heriot's FP	8	1	1	6	133	211	3
Dundee FP	8	1	0	7	92	219	2

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Glasgow Ac	8	7	0	1	245	96	14
Musselburgh	8	7	0	1	186	81	14
Stewarts Mel	8	6	0	2	205	103	12
W of Scotland	8	6	0	2	171	107	12
Clarkston	8	5	0	3	200	117	10
Kirkcaldy	8	3	1	4	121	136	7
Peebles	8	3	1	4	88	107	7
Preston Ldg	8	3	0	5	118	123	6
Grangemouth	8	3	0	5	128	141	6
Edinburgh W	8	3	0	5	110	149	6
Ayr	8	3	0	5	85	130	6
Kilmarnock	7	2	0	5	94	181	4
Wigtownshire	8	2	0	6	67	195	4
Dunfermline	7	1	0	6	59	170	2

Heineken League

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	13	12	0	1	411	146	24
Swansea	13	12	0	1	382	167	24
Llanelli	13	10	1	2	468	167	21
Neath	13	10	0	3	309	226	20
Bridgend	14	6	1	7	246	284	13
Newport	11	5	0	6	225	276	10
Pontypridd	13	4	2	7	216	238	10
Pontypool	13	5	0	8	249	324	10
Aberavon	13	4	0	9	187	282	8
Newbridge	12	3	0	9	140	282	6
Maesteg	13	2	1	10	167	333	5
S Wales Police	13	1	1	11	124	409	3

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dunvant	12	12	0	0	298	61	24
Narberth	14	11	1	2	219	94	23
Llanharan	14	10	1	4	264	120	20
Cross Keys	13	9	0	4	267	133	18
Tenby Utd	14	7	1	6	301	154	15
Glamorgan W	13	6	0	7	231	230	12
Llandovery	14	6	0	8	218	227	12
Ebbw Vale	13	6	0	7	134	195	12
Abertillery	12	5	0	7	184	204	10
Blaina	13	2	0	11	148	262	4
Penarth	13	2	0	11	83	459	4
Tredegar	13	1	2	10	88	244	4

Insurance Corporation All-Ireland League

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Constitution	4	4	0	0	84	59	8
Young Munster	4	3	0	1	68	63	6
St Mary's C	3	2	0	1	76	36	4
Garryowen	4	2	0	2	82	59	4
Shannon	3	1	0	1	64	51	2
Dungannon	4	1	0	3	70	91	2
Ballymena	3	1	0	2	27	49	2
Old Wesley	4	1	0	3	45	91	2

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lansdowne	4	4	0	0	76	34	8
Wanderers	4	4	0	0	67	49	8
Blackrock C	4	3	0	1	77	40	6
Instonians	4	3	0	1	54	31	6
Dolphin	4	2	0	2	51	67	4
Terenure	4	2	0	2	51	68	4
Clontarf	4	1	0	3	38	58	2
Galwegians	4	0	1	3	32	55	1
Bangor	4	0	1	3	33	73	1
Old Crescent	4	0	0	4	54	88	0

SAVE & PROSPER
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

SAVE & PROSPER
RUGBY AT TWICKENHAM 1993

16th JANUARY
ENGLAND v FRANCE

6th MARCH
ENGLAND v SCOTLAND

8th MAY
MIDDLESEX SEVENS

27th NOVEMBER
ENGLAND v NEW ZEALAND

SAVE & PROSPER
THE INVESTMENT HOUSE

home of an imaginary wife on the part of her fictional alto-ego at Melodrama is substituted for

هكذا من الأصل

CRICKET

England are guarded by armed police round clock

FROM PETER BALL IN LUCKNOW

AFTER a week cocooned in a Delhi hotel, England met the real India for the first time yesterday, and found themselves under armed guard. Their arrival in Lucknow, once a centre for the army of the Raj, now the capital of the troubled state of Uttar Pradesh, has produced a massive response from the local security forces.

From the moment they arrived, England have been under guard. They were escorted from the airport, their hotel is covered by 50 armed police, packing even the occasional Sten gun, and the two floors which house the team were searched for bombs.

"We are very relaxed about the situation at the moment," Bob Bennett, the tour manager, said, "but there's greater security than we expected. The players have been advised that if they go out they should take some security with them."

As well as showing traces of the Raj in some handsome buildings and more prosperity than much of rural India, Lucknow is also a city with one of the largest Muslim populations in India. It is only 80 miles from Ayodhya, where the temple was razed last month, provoking the riots which left over 1,000 dead, and though there has been little trouble here, the curfew was lifted only last week.

"There is no apprehension on our part," Anil Raturi, the police superintendent in charge, said, "but we don't want to take any chances. And as well as the riots, it is the first time we have had an international team here for 25 or 30 years, and we are expecting big crowds, so we are having a very elaborate security operation at the game."

Anyone entering the ground, where England will practice this morning, will be searched, and a large contingent of police will be in attendance when the game begins on Friday.

It is not the best setting for a cricket match, but there has been no sign that the team will be affected. It will, however, be interesting to see how one or two players react, particularly Phil Tufnell, who some fear may find India more irksome than most. After his inauspicious opening match, he needs to do well.

"The boy can bowl," John Embutey said during preparations for the tour. "He's got more natural ability than any other spinner for the last 20 or 25 years. He is a match-winner, which spinners haven't been recognised as being for several years. But he's still got a few rough edges."

If Tufnell is selected, the Lucknow pitch may provide an informative test. should Keith Fletcher's first reading of the wicket prove correct.

"It looks more like an Indian wicket — almost bare of grass, a concrete colour, with tiny cracks all over it," Fletcher said. "It might turn on the last day, but I don't think it will turn anything like the last one did."

Fletcher said after the poor performance against Delhi that everyone was in need of match practice. The only certainty is that Robin Smith and Philip DeFreitas will get some. Smith will bat with a plastic cover over the toe he broke at Lilleshall last month.



Rubbing it in: Adams hammers Warne to the boundary to reach 50 as he leads West Indies towards a score of 606

West Indies much encouraged by a commanding total

Sydney: West Indies, one down to Australia with two Tests to play in the five-match series, believe they were the moral winners of the high-scoring match which petered out in a draw here yesterday.

After being 31 for two in reply to Australia's first innings of 503 for nine, they hit back to reach 606, their second-highest total in the country.

That Australia afterwards negotiated 47 overs without mishap was largely academic, although David Boon passed 5,000 runs in Tests during his unbeaten innings of 63, as he and Mark Taylor put on 117 before the game was given up.

"Having lost in Melbourne, producing a total like that here certainly has lifted our spirits for the final two Tests," Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, said, acknowledging that Brian Lara's fine innings of 277 was largely responsible for Australia losing the initiative.

West Indies have traditionally been at their most vulnerable at Sydney, where they have lost eight Tests out of 12. But Adelaide, the scene of the next match, is a happier venue, for they have won three of their last four games there. At Perth, where the fifth Test will be played, the fast pitch has helped the West Indian quick bowlers win the last three matches, two by an innings. But Allan Border believes his Australian side will be able to hang on to the lead.

West Indies, who resumed their innings at 488 for five, finished only ten runs short of their highest score in Australia, the 616 made at Adelaide on the 1968-9 tour.

They would certainly have passed that, had the tailenders offered more support to Jimmy Adams, who finished 77 not out. *(Agencies)*

☐ Dean Jones has been recalled to the Australian squad for the World Series Cup match against West Indies in Brisbane on Sunday.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 503 for 9 dec (S R Waugh 100, G R J Matthews 79, D C Boon 78, A R Border 74).

Second Innings

M A Taylor not out	46
D C Boon not out	63
Extras (b 1, lb 2, nb 5)	8
Total (no wkt)	117

BOWLING: Ambrose 6-2-10-0, Bishop 4-1-6-0, Simmons 3-2-9-0, Walsh 8-3-13-0, Hooper 10-2-22-0, Adams 8-1-29-0; Arthurton 5-1-14-0; Lara 2-0-4-0, Richardson 1-0-4-0

WEST INDIES: First Innings

D L Haynes b Matthews	22
P V Simmons c Taylor b McDermott	3
*R B Richardson c Warne b Hughes	109
B C Lara run out	277
K L T Arthurton c Healy b Matthews	47
C L Hooper b Warne	21
J C Adams not out	77
†J R Murray c Healy b Hughes	11
I R Bishop run out	1
C E L Ambrose c Martyn b M Waugh	16
C A Walsh c Healy b Hughes	0
Extras (b 4, lb 9, w 1, nb 8)	22
Total	606

FALL OF WICKETS 1-13, 2-31, 3-324, 4-448, 5-481, 6-537, 7-573, 8-577, 9-603

BOWLING: McDermott 33-3-119-1, Hughes 16.4-1-76-3; Matthews 50-12-169-2, S Waugh 11-1-43-0; Warne 41-6-116-1, Border 14-1-41-0, M Waugh 10-1-29-1

Umpires: D Hair and T Prue

Man of the match: B Lara.

Tedious batting makes series safe for South Africa

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN CAPE TOWN

RIGHT to the end of the fourth Test match between South Africa and India here yesterday, there was no improvement to the funereal run-rate that marred what should have been a memorable game. Inevitably it was left drawn and South Africa completed a 1-0 win in their first Test series in the republic since 1969-70.

Both captains afterwards blamed a slow pitch for preventing batsmen making strokes and bowlers from achieving any dominance. Over the five days the scoring averaged 159 runs each day, making it one of the most turgid Test matches in history.

Allan Donald, the South African fast bowler, was named man of the series after taking 20 wickets in the four matches. Donald's pace, stamina and skill were the effective difference between the sides.

Srinath, the promising Indian fast bowler, won the man of the match award for spirited bowling yesterday.

Rather unexpectedly there was a two-hour period either side of lunch when the cricket had as much competitive edge as at any previous time in a boring match. Kirsten and Wessels were out in successive overs 40 minutes after South Africa resumed at 48 for two. It left them only 145 runs on, with six wickets in hand, and 79 overs remaining.

Cullinan and Rhodes, the new batsmen, looked distinctly uncertain as Srinath continued to find pace and bounce in the pitch and Kumble bowled into the rough outside the leg stump at the other end.

They survived, however, and any realistic chance the Indians had of bringing the innings to a quick end slowly disappeared.

South Africa scored 32 from 28 overs before lunch and 39 from 31 in the afternoon. Wessels declared 20 minutes after tea by which time South Africa were 214 ahead and the match was given up as soon as it was legally permissable to do so.

Kapil Dev, who had 'Happy Birthday' sung to him by the small crowd on his 34th birthday, had Kirsten brilliantly caught by Manjrekar at backward point from a fierce square drive. In the next over Wessels tried to hook a short ball from Srinath and top-edged a return catch.

By the time Rhodes was out to an outstanding catch by Srinath at mid-on, the fifth wicket pair had put on 34 in 32 overs.

Cullinan was caught behind soon afterwards but by then the match was drifting to its inconclusive end.

SOUTH AFRICA: First Innings 380 for 9 dec (J N Rhodes 86, B M McMillan 52).

Second Innings

*K C Wessels c and b Srinath	34
A C Hudson c More b Srinath	11
W J Cronje c More b Srinath	0
P N Kirsten c Manjrekar b Kapil Dev	13
D J Cullinan c More b Srinath	28
J N Rhodes c Sensh b Kumble	18
B M McMillan not out	11
†D J Richardson not out	10
Extras (lb 4, nb 3)	7
Total (6 wkts dec)	130

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-28, 3-61, 4-61, 5-95, 6-107.

BOWLING: Kapil Dev 17-4-29-1; Prabhakar 10-4-19-0; Srinath 27-10-33-4; Kumble 23-11-20-1; Raju 20-8-25-0.

INDIA: First Innings 278 (S R Tendulkar 73, M Prabhakar 62).

Second Innings

A Jadeja not out	20
M Prabhakar c Richardson b Matthews	7
S V Manjrekar not out	2
Total (1 wkt)	29

FALL OF WICKET: 1-21.

BOWLING: Donald 4-0-7-0, Matthews 6-1-17-1, Cronje 3-3-0-0, Rhodes 1-0-5-0.

Umpires: D R Shepherd (England), S B Lambson and K E Liebenberg (South Africa).

SPORTS LETTERS

Rugby union inexorably follows rugby league

From Mr William A. Anderson

Sir, It is not surprising that in the view of Dick Best, the England rugby union coach (report, December 30), his game is starting to resemble rugby league, for it is going through exactly the same evolutionary process that formed and developed rugby league nearly a century ago out of rugby union.

The forces of thriving club competition, the priority of spectators over players, the step-by-step professionalism all distanced the Northern Union rugby football from the original game. Ironically it is the amorphous ball-winning phases of play which allow "all shapes and sizes" to participate in rugby union which are destined to be severely diluted.

After the recent World Cup, when the concept of offensive tackling was discovered and the Sydney league slang of the "big hit" was in vogue, it was surprising to read recently that the director of coaching of the Australian Rugby Football Union (ARFU) thought that the recent law changes would "take the original game of rugby even further away from the 'rogue' game of rugby league which revolves around set plays, robots and human tanks".

This is a direct contradiction of most current views. The antipodean-inspired law changes were conceived out of southern hemisphere fear of the popularity on television of the more simple spectacle of rugby league. These laws will, as Best points out, take rugby union closer to that 'rogue' game which long ago eliminated the same disruptive elements which have latterly become so unpopular in rugby union.

After the formation of the Northern Union in 1895, there followed landmark changes: in 1897 the lineout was abolished and in 1906 the teams were reduced to 13, the play-the-ball rule after a tackle defined, and the direct kick to touch disallowed. Rugby union copied the last of these under ARFU pressure in 1970.

If, indeed, union forwards are now standing off from the rucks and mauls in defensive lines, then the time will come to reduce their number. The new laws have virtually disowned the ruck and maul as essential ball-contesting phases of rugby union, replaced them with automatic possession, and now a structured restart to play is the logical conclusion.

The laws on the lineout change almost with the seasons, and all are ungovernable. They have been found to disintegrate into anarchy under today's more competitive rugby just as they did in 1895.

The two rugby codes have always, to fair-minded followers, been complementary to one another, providing choice and interest through their diversity. However, they have been separated as much by a time warp as by social order, and though the discomfort being felt in some rugby union quarters at the prospect of following rugby league is understandable, the inevitability of it is now inescapable.

Yours faithfully,
W. A. ANDERSON,
5 Station Road,
Parbold, Lancashire

From Mr J. G. Forrest

Sir, Dick Best is reported as saying that the new laws are "pushing people down the road to professionalism just to train for this game." He said that "we are giving rugby players Olympic athletes' schedules to train every day or even twice a day."

Best should be aware that county or even club class athletes train every day or even sometimes twice a day. They do it because they get the satisfaction from the effort and feel that this is one of the ways they can improve still further. Such genuinely amateur athletes do not benefit from the financial perks enjoyed by some leading rugby union players, including training trips abroad.

I am sure Best will find rugby union players will enjoy the benefits of extra training just as we athletes do.

Yours faithfully,
JIM FORREST,
82 Laker's Rise,
Woodmansterne,
Banstead, Surrey.

Sad attitude in squash

From Mr C. M. N. Wilson

Sir, Colin McQuillan's article (December 24) about the top English players' attitude to the national squash championships is sad because it reflects a lack of heart in the game at top level in this country.

Key players, whom, surely, all supporters of the game would like to be proud of and pay the highest respect to, cannot serve any cause — least of all their own — when they threaten to refuse to confirm to selectors and supporters (including potential sponsors) that they are the best players in the land because of the lack of prize-money available.

I fully appreciate how much effort these players have to put into playing and that they must make a living from success on the court in lucrative events all over the world. They also provide vital inspiration to others by their success, skill and athleticism.

What a pity it is, therefore, that they are prepared to do harm to the game and to themselves by not facing up to the fact that times are hard and realizing that the one way the game and they will not prosper is by them being tempted to be greedy.

Yours faithfully,
C. M. N. WILSON (Scottish international, 1969-84),
44 Parchment Street,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

Thankless task of selectors

From Mr Alan Abel

Sir, As everybody in the country must now be aware, the controversy over the non-selection of David Gower is being painfully prolonged through the wranglings between a group of members and MCC.

If an ordinary cricket supporter can make a comment, the motion that there is no confidence in the selectors is to reiterate what has been said for decades about all such bodies.

It is one of the joys of cricket that the selectors make their selection and the rest of us pull the results of their labour to bits. The more honest supporter would, however, recognise that the task is a thankless one and that there is no "correct" selection which will satisfy everybody.

With respect to the more specific points being made in putting forward the motion, the selectors have made only one mistake and that was not to state that the selection was the best team available to them in their judgment rather than making excuses concerning age, which received a justifiably adverse response.

Should not this matter be allowed to rest before it gets even sillier than it has to date?

I cannot resist saying that I believe that the non-selection of Gower is correct (though this is not to say I agree with the rest of the selections). I mention this purely because I keep getting the impression that all right-minded individuals should think the opposite and that there are not two points of view on this question.

Yours sincerely
A. K. ABEL,
158 Midhurst Road,
Ealing, W13.

Enduring feats

From Mr Bernard Aspinwall

Sir, Contemporary commentators often lament the congested fixture list. Old football heroes are dismissed: their considerable feats allegedly were achieved under far less pressure.

In fact, an analysis of the games played by Preston North End, the first team to achieve the league and cup double, in 1888-9, shows a very different picture.

In that season they played 70 games between September 1, 1888 and May 28, 1889. Between 1885-6 and 1895-6 they never played fewer than 60 games and usually 66 in a season. Many involved travel over considerable distances to Ulster, Scotland, northern and southern England: from Dundee to Oxford, to Belfast and the Midlands. In 1888-9 they played six games in nine days over the new year, 1889.

Given the poorer diet, medical and physical provision, the burdens of wearisome travel and the small financial rewards, their achievements make modern players appear pathetic weaklings. Perhaps recognition of these older athletes is long overdue.

I remain, yours sincerely,
BERNARD ASPINWALL,
97 Mossgiel Road, Glasgow.

False security

From Dr C. Crosby

Sir, Gerald Davies's article (November 28) on the rising tide of shoulder injuries in rugby union raised several important points.

Whilst it is true that there is an increase in the chest-high "crash tackle" in the game, chest and shoulder pads may not be the simple solution to injury problems that they first appear.

The team contact sport with the highest incidence of injury is American football and it is significant that its players are by far the most heavily armoured (except for ice hockey, where blades, sticks, surface and a rock-hard puck provide additional hazards).

It must not be forgotten that whilst the purpose of the added protection over the years has been to prevent injury, the effect has been to permit far more dangerous tackles, blocks and dives.

The tackler, feeling invulnerable within his helmet and layers of padding, can now launch himself with impunity at the relatively unprotected knees, neck, face and abdomen of his opponent, knowing that he is far more likely to cause than to sustain damage.

Indeed, there is controversy in the United States at present about the offensive use of the helmet, particularly against quarterbacks with the intention to cause neck and concussive head injury, resulting in the tackled player having to leave the arena.

This so-called "seat belt syndrome" means that those wearing protection consider themselves to be immune from damage and therefore can take risks which would be most ill advised were they not so swaddled.

Unfortunately, whilst this argument fails for those driving irresponsibly with only a seat belt to protect them, it holds up only too well when an 18-stone linebacker launches himself helmet first at the knees of a 16-stone running back with a combined velocity of over 30mph.

The massive and permanent damage that such tackles cause is something which I do not wish to see in rugby union, nor, indeed, in any other contact sport, and I note, with no little concern, that there is a trend within rugby league towards increasing protection of the head and shoulders, which may well translate into an increasd incidence of these highly disruptive injuries.

If one compares pictures of American footballers in the 1930s and 1940s with the present rugby league players, one is immediately struck by the similarities in protective equipment and I would advise the administrators of that game also to be very cautious in this area.

As always, the best protection against injury in high-speed, contact-sport tackling is fitness, strength, flexibility and technique. Players do not tend to dive head first at the knees and boots of an opponent in rugby union since they are far more likely to be hurt themselves than to effect a tackle.

However, with proper coaching, chest, waist and leg tackles from the front, side and behind can be safe — for both parties — and effective.

If the new tackling trend demands a heavier muscular "overcoat" across vulnerable joints such as the shoulder, then so be it and the training must take this into account, but to place increasing reliance on artificial protection is to be deplored.

Yours faithfully,
C. P. CROSBY,
Sports Medicine Director,
Garden Hospital,
46-50 Sunny Gardens Road,
Hendon, NW4.

Small minded

From Mr J. P. Dickenson

Sir, In addition to the inadequacy of his height, Neil Back also stands accused of occasionally failing to stop rugby union forwards larger than himself and missing tackles on "really big international backs" (report, December 30).

It is to be hoped that the England coaches take their extraordinary sizeist notions to their logical conclusion to punish players not "handicapped" by their height.

May we look forward to any player failing to stop someone his own size, or missing a tackle on a player smaller than himself, being summarily dropped from the England (and Lions) squad?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DICKENSON,
9 The Serpentine,
Liverpool 19.

Name of the game

From Mr George F. Balfour

Sir, Following Mr Pallot's letter about unusual pairs of footballing names (December 31) in the 1950s Clyde, playing in the Scottish first division, had a regular pair of full backs called Haddock and Murphy. They were known, as Fish and Chips.

Yours faithfully
GEORGE F. BALFOUR
3 Budd's Close,
Basingstoke, Hampshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046. They should include a daytime telephone number.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Clubs reject return to two divisions

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE board of directors of the Rugby Football League (RFL) was ordered back to the drawing-board after a special meeting of clubs in Leeds yesterday rejected a proposed dismantlement of the three-division system after only two seasons, and a return to two divisions.

With frost playing havoc with fixtures, the 35 club chairmen unanimously withdrew from the brink of introducing two enlarged divisions of 16 and 19 teams. A ringing endorsement of the three-division format contradicted support at two previous meetings for the plan for two divisions.

There will be no change to the league or cup competitions next season, other than the exemption of first division clubs from the preliminary rounds of the main cups, which will be opened to as many as 15 amateur teams, preventing a reccurence of the unfortunate meeting on Sunday week between Wigan and Hull in the Challenge Cup.

Maurice Lindsay, the RFL's chief executive said: "Three divisions of 14 clubs is a permanent aim, but the numbers game is a constant problem."

Wakefield Trinity are hopeful of securing a £200,000 sponsorship package from local businesses to make an offer for Jonathan Davies, of Widnes, before the Challenge Cup registration deadline on Monday.

In talks this week with Rodney Walker, the Wakefield chairman, Davies, 30, indicated a preference to join a more fashionable outfit — Leeds, St Helens and Hull are also being linked with the former Wales rugby union captain — but Wakefield may be the only club in a position to take over the player's £70,000-per-year contract.

Davies has told Widnes that he would prefer to stay, but that the club's struggle to make payments on his contract, which has two years to run, could make a move unavoidable.

Hunslet, of the third division, have decided not to appeal against a £1,000 fine and costs of £360 imposed by the RFL for their refusal to play at Batley last month on a frost-bound pitch they considered dangerous.

The Regal Trophy final, between Wigan and the winners of Saturday's semi-final between Bradford Northern and Castleford, is to be staged for a third time at Elland Road, on January 23.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

DRACK

(b) Dismal, dull, unattractive, especially, in the regrettable way of the word, of a woman, origin uncertain, sometimes said to derive from the name of the US film *Dracula's Daughter* (1936): "Mr Hardy said he would put aside his memories of meeting Raquel Welch ('a drac[k] sort — not nearly as good looking in the flesh as you would expect')." "I thought she was going to kiss my hand, or bite it like another silly drack I knew once did."

WAND

(a) To scan the bar code of an article (eg in a supermarket) using a wand, verb from the noun *wand*: "Books could be wanded at the point of sale and the information stored on cassettes." "Go to Section X, Jack, and wand all the woofers."

SNOWDROP

(b) An American military policeman, hence any military policeman, slang: "Snowdrops — the London nickname for white-helmeted American military police — were patrolling the sidewalks." "Schacht sits in the witness box, flanked by two young Americans in white helmets. Every hour, two other snowdrops take over from their comrades the white batons of office."

ANGARY

(c) In full, *right of angary*, (F. *droit d'angarie*), the right of a belligerent to use and destroy, if necessary, the property of neutrals, ad. Latin *angaria*: "The most recent cases of the exercise of the right of angary occurred during the Franco-German War of 1870-71."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Solution: the white knight launched itself into the fray with 1 Ne6! and if 1 ... Bxh3 2 Rxg7+ mates. Black tried 1 ... Bf6 but after 2 Rg7+! Bxg7 3 Qh7+ his king was too exposed and he soon succumbed.

RUGBY UNION

Sharp given task of propping up Scotland's scrum

BY ALAN LORIMER

ALAN Sharp, at loose-head prop, is one of four new caps in the Scotland side to face Ireland on January 16 in the opening round of the five nations' championship. He might just have timed his run to perfection, too, having played for England B and with this likely to be the last season before rules governing switches are tightened.

Three of the new caps are in a reshaped pack, which includes only three players who appeared in the championship last season. Joining Sharp up front are Andrew Reed and Iain Morrison, while behind the scrum Derek Stark will play in his first international.

Sharp, 24, having played for the Anglo-Scots under-21 side, accepted an invitation to join the England B squad two seasons ago and was subsequently capped at that level before returning to the Exiles' fold this season.

Sharp was injured in the final match of the McEwan's inter-district championship and withdrew from the A match against Ireland. However, he had a sufficiently impressive trial to suggest he could fill the void created by David Sole's retirement at loose head. In contrast to the dynamic Sole, Sharp's forte is his strength, which should suit Scotland's cause.

Scotland would have had five new caps in their side but for a knee injury to Gregor Townsend during the trial last Saturday.

Duncan Paterson, the Scotland manager, said yesterday: "The medics advised us that Townsend would be most unlikely to be fit and therefore we could not consider him for selection." Thus, Graham Shiel wins his third cap.

Andrew Reed has had rapid promotion since coming into the Anglo-Scots team. Against Ireland A, Reed, 23, was a useful lineout exponent and enhanced that view in the trial. Against Ireland, he will be the middle jumper, with Damian Cronin stationed at the front.

Cronin will also lead the pack. Scotland's lineout options have increased substantially by the decision to play Doddie Weir at No. 8. Given the injuries to Dale McIntosh and Rob Wainwright, the selectors had little option but to do so.

Weir is part of a new back row in which Iain Morrison, 30, is a new cap. Morrison was a contemporary of David Sole at Glenalmond College and was selected for the Scotland sevens squad which won the Dubai tournament. Derek Turnbull, who last played for Scotland in the World Cup, is recalled as blind-side flanker.

In the backs, Stark, 26, deservedly wins selection on the left wing. He is a genuine sprinter, having been a finalist at both 100 and 200 metres in the Scottish championships, and his switch to the left wing allows for the return of Tony Stanger, who sealed his place with two tries in Dublin against Ireland A.

SCOTLAND A: G Hastings (Watsonians; capt); A G Stanger (Hawick), S Hastings (Watsonians), A G Shiel (Melrose), D A Stark (Boroughmuir); C M Chalmers (Melrose), G Armstrong (Jed-forest); A V Sharp (Bristol), K S Milne (Heriot's FP), A P Burnell (London Scottish), D J Turnbull (Hawick), A I Reed (Bath), D F Cronin (London Scottish), I R Morrison (London Scottish), G W Weir (Melrose). Replacements: K M Logan (Stirling County), I C Jardine (Stirling County), A D Nicol (Dundee High School FP), S J Reid (Boroughmuir), P H Wright (Boroughmuir), I Corcoran (Gala).

☐ Jim Staples was yesterday ruled out of London Irish's Courage Clubs Championship match against Gloucester on Saturday because of an injured right knee, and is in doubt for the match against Scotland on January 16.

Welsh are happy at progress

ENGLAND have gained an early advantage in this year's Anglo-Welsh rugby contests. A month before they attempt to secure a record fourth win in a row over their Welsh rivals, Will Carling's grand slam team won the battle of the "bleep tests".

Ian Hunter, the Northampton wing, headed the scoring with a 16.1 mark during England's training camp at Club La Santa, Lanzarote, last week. The best the Welsh could muster as they followed in the English footsteps yesterday was 15.2.

Not that Welsh hearts were downcast at the latest results on the lung-bursting, oxygen uptake test. While the English boasted a 20 per cent increase in fitness levels from a year ago, the Welsh were showing similar improvements in an even shorter space of time.

When the Welsh players first tackled the 25-metre shuttle-run test in September no one reached the 15 mark. Mark Perego, the Llanelli flanker, attained that standard for the forwards, while Wayne Proctor, the Llanelli winger and former Welsh Junior 400 hurdles champion, and Adrian Davies, the Cardiff stand-off half, reached 15.2.

"There is definitely an improvement from the last time the players were tested and the results are pleasing," Rosie Mayes, the physiology tester for the Welsh Rugby Union, said. "It's difficult to compare the results with other teams, and that's not the point of the exercise, but the good thing is there is an all-round improvement."

Tordo promises to keep France calm

BY PETER BILLS

JEAN François Tordo, the France rugby captain, yesterday promised there would be no repeat of the violence seen in Paris last year when France take on England at Twickenham on Saturday week.

Tordo, who plays for Nice, blamed his countrymen, himself included, for the trouble during the match in which two French players were sent off last season.

"The team was young and did not have a lot of maturity," he said. "France has learned a great lesson from what happened that day. The day itself, the excitement and the situation went to our heads.

"There is no chance it will happen again and there will be no violence at Twickenham. We are going to have more discipline, we will stay calm and not get involved in anything like that."

The controversial scrum-



Tordo: call for coolness

maging technique of Jeff Probyn, the England tight-head prop, was cited in some French quarters as a reason for the violence last season. Probyn has been recalled to the England side for Twickenham but Tordo refuses to blame him.

"We respect him as a player; he is the master of the scrum," he said. "He was not the cause of the problem last year, even though some of his scrummaging may be a little illegal. But that sort of thing happens. It doesn't mean we don't think he is a good player. Our team was responsible for the trouble because we lost our heads."

Tordo has a reputation as a strong player, either in the back row or at hooker — the position he prefers for the greater intensity of its involvement and from which he will lead France at Twickenham.

He acknowledges the responsibility of the captaincy. "It is an honour to be one of the few fortunate men to have led France," he said.

"To be a good captain, you must be calmer than you would be as an ordinary player. You must show the others what to do by your example. If you get overheated, they will be the same."

Tordo feels France are still seeking a new identity. He described his players as intelligent but said that, at present, they are playing with their legs not their heads. Maturity should reverse the process.

He regards England as an outstanding team. "They have a great chance of a third grand slam," he said. "But we shall do all we can to prevent that."



MARK PEPPER

Nice to see you: Carol Randall, a crew member aboard Heath Insured, is greeted by her husband, Nigel, after completing a tortuous second leg of the British Steel Challenge round-the-world race to Hobart yesterday

When ignorance is sheer bliss



Coopers & Lybrand

Vivien Cherry, the only woman skipper in the British Steel Challenge round-the-world race, led Coopers & Lybrand to fourth place on the second leg to Hobart. She and her crew faced a bewildering battle of wits against the elements, with structural damage and injuries continually hampering their progress

WHEN we sailed into Hobart to take fourth place on the second leg on Tuesday, we were the first boat to arrive with its spinnaker in use. But the race had taken its toll.

Before the next leg starts on February 15, there are cracks in the mast to be checked and the crew needs every moment to recover from injuries, which include an inflamed knee, a suspected broken collarbone and bruised ribs.

The second leg became a continual test of survival for us in terms of keeping Coopers & Lybrand in working order. After a fleet warning message that one of the other yachts, Hofbrau, had a cracked mast, we checked ours.

Sure enough, we had a dent spanning around half the circumference of the mast. This was at deck level and difficult to get a good look at.

The tell-tale alloy stains down the mast should have given us a clue but I wrongly diagnosed this as movement in the lower kicker strut attachment. They say ignorance is bliss: the worry and fear after that discovery was greater than any concern in the race to date.

In contrast, we were treated to some spectacular sights. One warm night, the sky was lit up as if by searchlights, caused by the reflection of the sun from the Antarctic ice.

The second sight, just as fascinating, was looking into the sea with a torch. The numerous sea creatures this showed up appeared like microbes through a microscope.

Large squid-like jellyfish, in all sorts of translucent shapes with spots that glowed orange in the light.

They were so abundant that it is no wonder this ocean can support such bird and sea life. Albatrosses, petrels and prions remained our constant escorts.

We were assured of a rousing welcome in Hobart, the noise and bustle of lots of people being something we were looking forward to. After six weeks on a 67ft yacht, with the same 14 people, I guess it is not so surprising.

Last week went quickly, with rapid progress. Our fourth place justified the decision to go south, even touching 60 south, to keep the distance travelled to a minimum. The cold was worth it.

All of us feel the last two months has aged us more like a year. As would be expected of any trial or challenge, this leg of southern ocean sailing has put a lot of pressure on a crew of so-called amateurs.

They have succeeded through tiredness, hard work, freezing cold, boredom and a relentless 50 days at sea. All should feel rightly proud of having truly earned the title "Cape Horners".

Group 4 squeezes in after week-long struggle

BY BARRY PICKTHALL

ONCE Paul Jeffes and his crew on Interspray, who were due in Hobart last night, have reached port, eight yachts will have successfully completed the second and harshest stage of the British Steel Challenge.

Most remarkable, considering the damage to rigs and equipment which has occured within the fleet during this 8,800-mile stage from Rio de Janeiro, however, has been the close racing. Late on Tuesday, Group 4 Securitas, skippered by Mike Golding, finally pipped Ian MacGillivray's Pride of Teesside into port by three hours after trading places, often in sight of each other, for the past week. Three days is all that has divided Nuclear Electric, which finished first, from Interspray, in eighth place.

Still at sea last night were Rhone-Poulenc, which had 500 miles to cover after after her crew lost three days putting into the Falkands for repairs, and British Steel II, whose crew set out from Wellington yesterday after refuelling their dismasted yacht.

The time allowances Group 4 and Heath Insured crews can expect for helping Richard Tudor's British Steel II after she was dismasted narrow the differences further.

The 12 hours pencilled in for Group 4 will bring Mike Golding's crew to within four minutes of Vivien Cherry's Coopers & Lybrand while Adrian Donovan's Heath Insured, which lost 16 hours during the same emergency, can expect to close to within six hours of Cherry's time.

Ian MacGillivray has also claimed time for his yacht, Pride of Teesside, for diverting, needlessly as it turned out, towards British Steel's position, but is still likely to drop to seventh place behind Heath Insured. The losers will probably be Jeffes and his Interspray crew, likely to receive a two-hour penalty for jumping the start.

SECOND LEG (Rio de Janeiro to Hobart): Finishers: 1, Nuclear Electric (J Challenger) 48 days 23hr 25min; 2, Commercial Union (R Meinweather) 49:08:20; 3, Hofbrau Lager (P Goss) 50:09:29; 4, Coopers & Lybrand (V Cherry) 50:16:43; 5, Group 4 Securitas (M Golding) 51:04:47; 6, Pride of Teesside (I MacGillivray) 51:07:58; 7, Heath Insured (A Donovan) 51:13:59. Other positions (at 15:00 GMT yesterday, with miles to Hobart): 8, Interspray (P Jeffes), 7; 9, Rhone-Poulenc (P Phillips), 515. Retired: British Steel II (R Tudor) dismasted and now heading for Hobart.

☐ Race information supplied by BT.

YACHTING

Book shows ways of helping the disabled

BY ALEX RAMSAY

THE Royal Yachting Association (RYA) has started the new year with a programme of initiatives to promote sailing for the disabled. The move is tied to the RYA's year of youth sailing, launched yesterday at the Boat Show.

The first step was the publication of *Watersports for Everyone*. Produced in conjunction with the Henri Lloyd Trust, the book is designed to teach the able-bodied that disability should not be a barrier to participation in sailing.

The book was written by Carol Blundell, the manager of Debdale Sailing Centre in Manchester. Blundell first formulated her ideas on disability watersports as part of her teaching qualifications, using her findings for her thesis.

Since then her staff in Manchester has used her files and notes as guidelines for coping with the different areas of disability. After years of being told she ought to put her vast knowledge and experience into print, her lifetime of expertise has finally hit the bookshops.

"Our main problem is getting people on the water," she said. "As an RYA coach I have discovered the problem is not with the disabled but with the families and carers. They are the ones who think sailing is too dangerous.

"What we try to do is get everyone involved. Usually the disabled child is the one who goes sailing while the family watches from the shore. But if we get everyone on the water the carers will become more confident in their abilities."

This simple philosophy is reflected in the book. It is not a teaching guide but an explanation in everyday terms of how different disabilities — ranging from epilepsy to visual and hearing impairment to wheelchair users and those with learning difficulties — can be overcome with common sense and understanding to introduce anyone to sailing.

The book costs £6, which will go to the Henri Lloyd Trust. The Trust, also launched yesterday, will use the money to provide training in watersports for the disabled and also fund training courses for teachers, carers and sailing instructors.

The book is part of a new RYA forum which will run through the year pulling together the different groups, charities and sporting associations dealing with sailing to provide a coherent strategy to improve opportunities for the disabled.

Staying afloat, page 23.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Piste	Conditions Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow fall
FRANCE							
Isola 2000	20	50	hardpacked	poor	sunny	1	23/12
(Best above middle station. 16 lifts and 26 pistes open)							
La Plagne	20	280	fair	difficult	overcast	-1	12/12
(Poor on lower slopes. 105 lifts and 104 pistes open)							
Les Arcs	50	300	fair	difficult	fine	0	12/12
(Upper pistes groomed, icy on lower slopes)							
Megeve	5	140	fair	poor	fine	2	12/12
(Poor on lower slopes. 39 lifts and 49 pistes open)							
Tignes	117	350	fair	worn	fair	-1	12/12
(Best skiing on glacier. Worn on lower slopes)							
SWITZERLAND							
C Montana	30	200	good	poor	cloudy	0	12/12
(Good on upper runs and glacier. Lower patchy)							
Davos	30	135	good	poor	cloudy	-1	12/12
(Best at Parsenn. Lower runs thin and icy)							
Saas Fee	40	190	good	open	cloudy	1	12/12
(Still good above middle station. All lifts open)							
Villars	5	40	poor	closed	cloudy	0	11/12
(Poor conditions with patchy and icy pistes)							
Zermatt	50	155	good	open	cloudy	2	8/12
(Snow holding out well on upper runs. Sunnegga thin)							
ITALY							
Bormio	20	180	good	open	cloudy	-3	28/12
(Some good skiing, though lower runs patchy and icy)							
Livgno	50	200	good	open	cloudy	0	12/12
(Still good skiing on hardpacked pistes. 26/27 lifts open)							
AUSTRIA							
Bad Gastein	30	115	good	open	cloudy	0	13/12
(Lower runs worn. Overall still good)							
Kitzbühel	5	50	mixed	closed	cloudy	1	13/12
(Deteriorating conditions. Skiing on highest runs)							
Lech	45	90	good	open	cloudy	-2	12/12
(Good on upper piste. All lifts in Lech and Zurs open)							
Obergurgl	60	180	good	open	cloudy	-1	12/12
(Surface icy, but conditions good overall)							
ROMANIA							
Borovets	30	80	good	open	bright	-3	3/1
(Fresh snow on middle and upper slopes)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

GOLF

Putter thrives on poetic licence

THEY probably write limericks about the President's Putter, which starts at Rye today. Rhymes that immediately spring to the chilled winter mind are "nutter" and "why?"

"The weather's not usually that bad," said Cliff Weight, honorary secretary of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society, whose members constitute the Putter's participants. "We've only been snowed off once since 1920. Are we lunatics? That's not a very nice question. We have a very good turn-out every year and it's a great reunion as much as anything."

The course was closed on Tuesday because, although thawing on top, the ground was frozen solid to seven inches. The forecast is by no means dire — mild, wet and windy — and the society's members are rarely deterred by any conditions. More than 150 of them, including Mark Cox, the holder, throw themselves in to the fray today.

Cox had flown in from the United States and others were coming from hot spots like Barbados, Dubai and Brazil. Nothing like giving the system a temperature shock to round off the new year celebrations.

Few would admit to being in anything but the rustiest of form, although there was more of a rodomontade edge to the banter at the bar. John Uzielli, a former winner, doubtless allowed himself an extra toast when he learned that Fiona Edmond, his original opponent, had to withdraw because of the chronic medial epicondylitis that has dogged her right elbow. Uzielli is a civilised soul but nobody wants to risk a beating by the society's only woman.

Edmond's husband, Andy, another former winner, was fit to play but Peter Tinniswood's brigadier would be desolate to learn of the withdrawal of the victor in 1983 and 1985, the peerless E. R. Dexter, chairman of the England cricket selectors. It was his back that caused Dexter to pull out and yesterday, having had his jabs for India, he was also nursing a bad arm. There must be a limerick in that.

Sweden have to qualify

SWEDEN, who won the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews in 1991, will have to qualify to reach the finals this year. The organisers said yesterday that because of the position of the three leading Swedes in the world rankings, Sweden were not automatically through to the finals.

They will have to come through the world qualifying event in Singapore from April 29 to May 2 to earn a place in the £1 million pound championship at St Andrews, from October 14 to 17.

Their top-ranked player at the end of 1992 was Anders Forsbrand in 39th spot. Per-Ulrik Johansson was 77th and Robert Karlsson 97th. Forsbrand and Johansson were both members of the winning team in 1991 and went on later that year to add the World Cup title, in which they were runners-up in 1992.

Zimbabwe will be seeded for the first time. Nick Price, the US PGA champion, Mark McNulty and Tony Johnstone are ranked eighth, nineteenth and 28th.

Grindley top of the bill

David Grindley, who supplanted Roger Black as Britain's top quarter-miler at the Barcelona Olympics, will open his 1993 campaign in the Birmingham Games tomorrow and Saturday. Grindley runs in the 400 metres.

Dennis Mitchell, bronze medal-winner behind Linford Christie in the Olympic 100 metres, will run the 60 metres at Britain's first big athletics event of the year in Glasgow on January 30.

Record-breaker

Swimming: Franziska van Almsick, of Germany, broke her second short-course world record in two months yesterday in the 100 metres freestyle at a World Cup meeting in Shanghai. Van Almsick, 14, clocked 53.46sec.

Cook keeps title

Skiing: David Cook, 17, of Rotherham, retained his British junior downhill championship in Altenmarkt, Austria, yesterday. Cook finished fifth but took the title as the highest-placed Briton with a time of 1min 25.50sec.

TABLE TENNIS

Chen takes on rigorous international schedule

CHEN Xinhua, the English national champion, will need all the skill and resilience that twice made him a member of Chinese world title-winning teams over the next six days, five of which will be occupied with top competition (Richard Eaton writes).

Today, at the South Kesteven centre in Lincolnshire, he will play in the first of two England internationals against France, and tomorrow spectators at Bletchley will enjoy an unusual hors d'oeuvres of Chen playing a challenge match against Carl Prean, his predecessor as English national champion.

The show then goes for two days to the North-East, where Chen is favourite to win the Cleveland Five Star Open, which, with players from six countries has the best entry in a British tournament this season. He then moves down to Cornwall where England should polish off Holland at St Austell (they lead 4-0 from the first leg). Chen is 33 this month and few could cope with such an itinerary at his age.

The adopted Yorkshireman, known for his acrobatic style, has plenty of incentive. According to German radio he has signed a new contract to move from Saarbrucken to Ochsenhausen in the Bundesliga for a salary reported to be DM200,000.

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هكذا من الأصل

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Pitman set to collect double

JENNY Pitman can take centre stage at Worcester today when the Lambourn trainer looks booked for a double with **Spirit Of Kibris** (1.10) and **Quentin Durwood** (3.40).

Spirit Of Kibris won a handicap hurdle on his seasonal reappearance at Warwick in November and was then a warm order to make a successful debut over fences at Huntingdon.

However, the eight-year-old was unable to peg back the all-the-way winner Dolikos, and was beaten ten lengths. Spirit Of Kibris should recoup the losses this time although Gay Ruffian, now with Martin Pipe, had useful form last term over hurdles.

Quentin Durwood, a striking grey, returned after a [redacted] lengthy absence to finish a creditable fourth behind San Lorenzo at the same Huntingdon meeting, and is napped to capture the Broadway Handicap Hurdle.

The seven-year-old was a talented novice hurdler, winning four times in the 1990-1 season, and it was only in the closing stages at Huntingdon that he relinquished the lead.

Mrs Pitman brought Royal Athlete back to land a substantial gamble at Windsor recently and her patience should be rewarded again with Quentin Durwood hopefully following suit.

Oliver Sherwood's *Beauchamp Express had two* attempts before opening his account over timber when he got the better of Kiwi Velocity in a spirited duel for a novice handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot last month.

With that victory under his belt, this useful former Flat performer can oblige again in the second division of the Holt Novices' Hurdle.

The first division can go to Nicky Henderson's improving **Sea Search**, who caught the eye when staying on for fifth place behind Tactical Mission at Doncaster last month.

The performance of Beauchamp Express will have a close bearing on **Kiwi Velocity's** chance in the three-mile Bransford National Hunt Novices' Hurdle. This Philip Hobbs-trained six-year-old ran on strongly at Newton Abbot and should have too much stamina for her 24 rivals.

Peter Beaumont, obviously delighted with Jodami's Mandarin Chase success at Newbury last weekend, can add to his tally with the lightly-weighted **Barkisland** in the Redhill Handicap Chase.

Saddler's Choice, who was a creditable second behind the smart Dakyns Boy at Warwick, can go one better in the Malvern Novices' Chase.

At Market Rasen, **Portonia** can extend her impressive sequence for Mary Reveley in the Louth Handicap Chase. The Saltburn trainer should also take the Lincoln Handicap Chase with **Bonanza**.

Jimmy Fitzgerald can also land a double with **Dara Melody** (1.20) and **Greek Flutter** (2.20).

King Credo out of Ladbroke

BY DICK HINDER

BRITAIN'S challenge for the Ir£60,000 Ladbroke Hurdle suffered a setback yesterday with the news that King Credo is unlikely to run.

The eight-year-old, the star of Steve Woodman's Chichester stable, completed his final piece of work yesterday only to return from the gallops with a runny nose.

"We took him down to Guy Harwood's at Pulborough but when we got him back we found he had a snotty nose," a dejected Woodman said.

"The vet is checking him over, but he is unlikely to run."

King Credo, 10-1 with the sponsors, was removed from the betting as Bitofabanter, the mount of Francis Woods, hardened to 9-2 favourite, with Vintage Crop 6-1.

Dermot Weld returned from holiday yesterday to confirm that Vintage Crop, whose presence among the four-day acceptors caught bookmakers by surprise, will be declared today.

But he warned that if conditions become too testing the top-weight will not run. Conditions are presently good to yielding. Brendan Sheridan stands by to ride, although Weld is seeking a jockey for Alterezza.

Maguire decides to partner Cool Ground at Sandown

ADRIAN Maguire has decided to ride the Toby Balding-trained Cool Ground in the Anthony Mildmay Peter Cazalet Chase at Sandown on Saturday.

The young Irishman is deserting his Hennessy winner, Sibton Abbey, to remain loyal to the horse on which he beat The Fellow in that thrilling finish to the Cheltenham Gold Cup last season.

Faced with the choice of two plum mounts this weekend, Maguire finally announced his decision yesterday. "In the end, it was not a difficult decision to make at all," the jockey said.

But his agent, Dave Roberts, *did not* agree. "It was the hardest decision we have ever had to make. The connections of Sibton Abbey have been very understanding and we will be the first to congratulate them if they win."

Maguire thought he had won the Sandown contest 12 months ago for Sibton Abbey's owner, Geoff Hubbard, and trainer, Ferdie Murphy, on On The Twist, one of three winners for them at the meeting, only to lose all the prizes because he was not entitled to his claim.

In Maguire's absence, Paul Murphy, the amateur rider son of the trainer, deputises. He will claim 7lb.

Paul Murphy, whose victory on Sibton Abbey at Cheltenham in November is one of his two sucesses this term, was the choice of Hubbard.

"I think he is a bit inexperienced and it is a lot to ask the lad, but Mr Hubbard is adamant," the trainer said.

"I can't go against him. Paul knows the horse very well and should do all right, though Sibton Abbey will probably need the run."

Waterloo Boy will miss his weekend clash with old rival Katabatic in the Mitsubishi Shogun Newton Chase at Haydock.

David Nicholson's chaser, who ran below par when beaten ten lengths by Katabatic at Wetherby recently, was ruled out after working yesterday.

"He just isn't sparkling," the trainer said. "He will possibly run in the Victor Chandler Chase at Ascot followed by the Game Spirit at Newbury next month."

☐ The meeting at Market Rasen goes ahead today, provided it passes a 7.30am inspection. After two inspections by the stewards yesterday, the course was found to be raceable but there was a threat of overnight frost.



Balding: teams up with Maguire again

Priority for text service

INDEPENDENT bookmakers seeking to establish a rival to Satellite Information Services (SIS) are to set up a teletext service before moving into pictures.

The British Betting Office Association are planning to fund the scheme through the Business Expansion Scheme.

The chairman, Warwick Bartlett, said yesterday: "The first priority for our alternative service is to set up a viable text service. It will be a terrestrial service available to any shop which can receive a television picture."

RACELINE TIPSTER

MANDARIN
12.40 Sea Search.
1.10 Spirit Of Kibris.
1.40 Beauchamp Express.
2.10 Barkisland.
2.40 Kiwi Velocity.
3.10 Saddler's Choice.
3.40 **QUENTIN DURWOOD** (nap).

THUNDERER
12.40 Sea Search.
1.10 **GAY RUFFIAN** (nap).
1.40 Beauchamp Express.
2.10 Carbonate.
2.40 Kiwi Velocity.
3.10 Capability Brown.
3.40 *Quentin Durwood.*

RICHARD EVANS: 1.10 Gay Ruffian. 2.10 **UNCLE ELI** (nap). 2.40 Kiwi Velocity.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.40 **KIWI VELOCITY.**

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES) SIS

12.40 HOLT NOVICES HURDLE
(Div I: £1,910: 2m 5f 110yd) (14 runners)

1 R241 **BEAUCHAMP EXPRESS** 12 (D,S) (E Fraser) O Sherwood 5-11-12 J McCarthy (7) (8)
2 5 ABSOLUTELY RIGHT 21 (Mrs E Gibbs) J White 5-11-6 B Clifford (3) –
3 4FU53-A BARRY OWEN 47 (P Freeman) B McMahon 7-11-6 T Wall –
4 4/0F GOLDEN MADJAMBO 78 (Mrs J Haslam) F Jordan 7-11-6 J Lodder –
5 416 GORT 33 (S) (F Allison) Miss K Allison 5-11-6 B Powell –
6 OFPP65/ HARD TO RESIST 682 (Mrs J Madden) D White 8-11-5 N Williamson –
7 360/P LOUGH BROWN 47 (J McCarthy) T Casey 10-11-5 J White –
8 0P-6 REDCLYFFE 24 (S Coles) R Frost 5-11-5 J Frost 65
9 0/ ROYAL REFRAIN 1092 (Mrs A Wood) T Foster 8-11-5 C Llewellyn –
10 P4P8-84 SIGRCOAT GREEN 19 (Calder Racing) P Beaumont 8-11-5 R Dunwoody 86
11 05 CWM ARCTIC 43 (Mr B Brown) Mrs A Price 6-11-1 Mr C Campbell (7) –
12 /590/FP OZZIES LASS 52 (Mrs L Corbet) F Gay 8-11-1 M Crossa –
13 0F64 URSHI-JADE 22 (R Mehta) K Wells 5-11-1 V Slattery (5) 66

BETTING: 5-2 Sea Search, 4-1 Juno Away, 6-1 Grand Fellow, Melaegris, 15-2 Ashsaylad, 8-1 Cullerosa, 10-1 Rare Warrior, 12-1 others.

1992: NO CORRESPONDING MEETING

FORM FOCUS

KANO WARRIOR 34f 7th of 20 to Majed. In a novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, soft). MELAEGRIS 9f 3rd of 13 to Viridian in a novice hurdle at Newcastle in March 1990 (2m 4f, good to firm). SEA SEARCH 134f 3rd of 22 to Tactical Mission in a novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 4f, good).

JUNO AWAY 16f 4th of 17 to Carrick Lines in a novice hurdle at Ranger (2m 4f, soft). ASHSAYLAD, fair staying handicapper on the Flat, 7f 4th of 12 to Viridian in a novice hurdle at Doncaster in October (1m 6f 132d, good).
Selection: SEA SEARCH

1.10 GRIMLEY NOVICES CHASE (£2,672: 2m) (11 runners)

1 601426- **GAY RUFFIAN** 211F (CD,G,S) (F Jones) M Pipe 7-11-4 P Scudamore –
2 FPPUPPP- HAZZARD'S BOY 238 (D Hazzard) Mrs J Dowe 8-11-4 N Dowe –
3 OU0P/5P JESSOP 58 (S Tindall) S Mellor 8-11-4 M Perrett –
4 26P/25 MAN OF THE WEST 26 (D,S,S) (Mrs D Todd) K Bailey 10-11-4 S McNeill 84
5 2221/6F OSTURA 6 (D,S) (Chalfont-St-Giles Feathers Partnership) JWhite 8-11-4 B Clifford (3) –
6 0048- RATHER SHARP 222 (D) (D Coombs) C Popham 7-11-4 M A Fitzgerald –
7 R/0PPP/ SOLAR GREEN 608 (Reach Recruitment Ltd) G Hare 8-11-4 C Maude –
8 21/P4-12 SPIRIT OF KIBRIS 36 (D,BF,S) (Mrs D Laing) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-4 M Pitman (8)
9 0-50RPF WEST ORIENT 86 (D,S) (T Parrott) Mrs H Parrott 8-11-4 D Leahy (5) 96
10 P-500 JUST MELLY 22 (Mrs B Mills) J Mullins 7-10-13 S Earle –
11 6045/4P OUTFIELD 31 (Mrs M Grant) J Webber 7-10-13 M Lynch –

BETTING: 9-4 Spirit Of Kibris, 11-4 Man Of The West, 3-1 Gay Ruffian, 12-1 Rather Sharp, West Orient, 14-1 Just Melly, 16-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

GAY RUFFIAN 3l 2nd of 7 to Don Valentino in a hurdle at Chepstow in April (2m, good). Makes chasing debut. MAN OF THE WEST 29l 5th of 9 to Reggae Beat in a novice chase at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good). OSTURA, fair novice hurdler two years ago, fell at 1st on chasing debut at Windsor (2m, good to soft). SPIRIT OF KIBRIS 10l 2nd of 6 to Dolikos in a novice handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft). Previously, beat Eastern Magic 7l in a 5-runner handicap hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft). WEST ORIENT clear when fell last in a 12-runner claiming chase won by Noble Eyre at Wolverhampton (2m, good).
Selection: SPIRIT OF KIBRIS

1.40 HOLT NOVICES HURDLE (Div II: £1,910: 2m 5f 110yd) (13 runners)

1 R241 **BEAUCHAMP EXPRESS** 12 (D,S) (E Fraser) O Sherwood 5-11-12 J McCarthy (7) (8)
2 5 ABSOLUTELY RIGHT 21 (Mrs E Gibbs) J White 5-11-6 B Clifford (3) –
3 4FU53-A BARRY OWEN 47 (P Freeman) B McMahon 7-11-6 T Wall –
4 4/0F GOLDEN MADJAMBO 78 (Mrs J Haslam) F Jordan 7-11-6 J Lodder –
5 416 GORT 33 (S) (F Allison) Miss K Allison 5-11-6 B Powell –
6 OFPP65/ HARD TO RESIST 682 (Mrs J Madden) D White 8-11-5 N Williamson –
7 360/P LOUGH BROWN 47 (J McCarthy) T Casey 10-11-5 J White –
8 0P-6 REDCLYFFE 24 (S Coles) R Frost 5-11-5 J Frost 65
9 0/ ROYAL REFRAIN 1092 (Mrs A Wood) T Foster 8-11-5 C Llewellyn –
10 P4P8-84 SIGRCOAT GREEN 19 (Calder Racing) P Beaumont 8-11-5 R Dunwoody 86
11 05 CWM ARCTIC 43 (Mr B Brown) Mrs A Price 6-11-1 Mr C Campbell (7) –
12 /590/FP LIZZIES LASS 52 (Mrs L Corbet) F Gay 8-11-1 M Crossa –
13 0F64 URSHI-JADE 22 (R Mehta) K Wells 5-11-1 V Slattery (5) 66

BETTING: 4-6 Beauchamp Express, 4-1 Silkroad Green, 6-1 Absolutely Right, 8-1 Barry Owen, 10-1 Until-Jade, 12-1 Gort, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

BEAUCHAMP EXPRESS beat Kiwi Velocity 9l in a 13-runner novice handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, heavy).
BARRY OWEN 79l 4th of 12 to Nowhiski in a selling handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good). GORT beat Classic Hunter 29l in a 15-runner National Hunt flat race at Newton Abbot on penultimate start (2m 1f, heavy). SIGRCOAT DREAM 123d 4th of 11 to Miss Capulet in a novice handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter on penultimate start (3m 110yd, heavy). URSHI-JADE 81d 4th of 10 to Chipanopal in a novice handicap hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, soft).
Selection: BEAUCHAMP EXPRESS

2.10 REDHILL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,184: 2m) (12 runners)

1 1/FF1F- **UNCLE ELI** 383 (CD,S,S) (J Burley) P Hobbs 10-11-10 Peter Hobbs 88
2 5-14FT2 CARBONATE 12 (D,F,S,S) (P Partridge) R Buckler 8-10-9 B Powell 84
3 313425- SPARK OF PEACE 252 (D,S,S) (B Cahill) M Charles 11-10-8 A Webb 96
4 6-25608 GAMOON 5 (D,S,S) (L Snook) J Akehurst 10-10-8 L Harvey –
5 91F532 LUCKY AGAIN 24 (D,S) (A Cairns) C Popham 6-10-6 M A Fitzgerald 85
6 F5/P014- ROMAN DART 355 (CD,G,S) (Mrs M Backer) M Scudamore 9-10-4 S McNeill 85
7 P35-132 PITHY 51 (CD,S,S) (B Owen) R Price 11-10-2 D Leahy (5) 98
8 1531/P6 BRIGGS BUILDERS 27 (B,D,F,S,S) (Mrs N Jones) M Muggeridge 9-10-1 A Maguire 76
9 3-43132 BARKISLAND 29 (D,S) (J Webb) P Beaumont 9-10-0 R Dunwoody 89
10 1-0500F MUSIC BOX 6 (D,S,S) (Miss R Dobson) R Hodges 7-10-0 J Railton –
11 050/6P6 ROCHESTER 10 (Mrs E Hitching) R Lee 7-10-0 D Tegg –
12 4P-5882 CITY INDEX 33 (D,F) (The Hodson Partnership) N Smith 7-10-0 P Leach 85

Long handicap: Rochester 9-7, City Index 9-5.

BETTING: 7-2 Pithy, 4-1 Carbonate, 5-1 Barkisland, Lucky Again, 6-1 Spark Of Peace, 8-1 Uncle Eli, 10-1 Roman Dart, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

UNCLE ELI beat Royal Champ 3l 1 in a 5-runner handicap chase over course and distance in December 1991 (good). CARBONATE 24l 2nd of 8 to Broughton Manor in a handicap chase at Wincanton (2m, good to soft). SPARK OF PEACE 11l 2nd of 8 to The Antarctic in a handicap chase at Carlisle in April (2m, soft). LUCKY AGAIN 19l 2nd of 15 to Delab in a novice chase at Ludlow (2m, good to soft). ROMAN DART beat CITY INDEX (9st worse off) 1l in a 7-runner handicap chase at Smallmead last January (AW, 2m, standard). PITHY 14l 2nd of 6 to Sister Country in a handicap chase at Newton Abbot (2m 110yd, heavy). BARKISLAND 6l 2nd of 3 to Last 'O' The Bunch in a handicap chase at Haydock (2m, soft).
Selection: LUCKY AGAIN

RACELINE GUIDE TO OUR ON-LINE RACECARD

1 113143 **GOOD TIMES** 13 (BF,F,S,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if 1st. (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield, C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner, BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard, G — good, S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.40 BRANSFORD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,366: 3m) (25 runners)

1 · 0654/6 ARM IN ARM 23 (F Gay) F Gay 5-10-12 M Crosse 89
2 · 000-UF8 CASS 44 (B) (C Wilson) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-12 C Llewellyn 61
3 34/FBP3 EXPRESS REALE 19 (S) (R Watts) T Thomson Jones 8-10-12 S Smith Eccles 76
4 0P GOLDEN FRAME 55 (Mrs J Murray Smith) D Murray Smith 6-10-12 J White –
5 · 0-03655 GRAIN MERCHANT 23 (Mallorwood Ltd) F Yardley 7-10-12 B Clifford (3) 72
6 · 640-633 HAPPY HORSE 28 (Mid I Mandley) D Barons 6-10-12 N Hawke 86
7 · 0 KNIGHTSBRIDGE BC 61 (Knightsbridge BC) K Bailey 6-10-12 S McNeill –
8 · 00030-0 MALVERNIAN 27 (Malvair Group Plc) Mrs H Parrott 7-10-12 D Leahy (5) 66
9 · 50-0503 MARTELL BOY 12 (D Jones) D Barons 6-10-12 J Frost 81
10 · · MERRY WAND (Faversham Racing Club) R Lee 8-10-12 D Tegg –
11 · 5456 MIGHTY RANDOLPH 47 (S) (S Aline) R Alner 5-10-12 A Maguire 80
12 · P · MOODYS EXPRESS 37 (J D Racing) R Buckler 6-10-12 Mr C Bonner (7) –
13 · 500-FPP MOTHINGBUTTROUBLE 24 (T Parrott) Mrs H Parrott 6-10-12 V Slattery (5) –
14 · 0P/0050 RAGTIME COWBOY JOE 30 (J Allen) J Allen 8-10-12 Mr N Bradley (7) 67
15 · 0-330 SMITH TOO 27 (Smith Mansfield Meat Co Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-12 M Pitman 92
16 · P/J43-PP SPARKLING FLAME 40 (S) (Chandler Hargreaves Ltd) N Henderson 9-10-12 R Dunwoody –
17 · · 6/ SPRING BASH 607 (T Penman) B McMahon 8-10-12 T Wall –
18 · FP/F- SUNSHINE BLUES 282 (Mrs J Hewett) Mrs F Walwyn 10-10-12 B de Haan –
19 · 5RD/04- SWEETING 482 (H Singer) J White 8-10-12 A Jones –
20 · P0046-2 JUST A SECOND 57 (C Drew) C Drew 8-10-7 N Mann 80
21 · 69/545-2 KIWI VELOCITY 12 (A Stoddart) P Hobbs 6-10-7 Peter Hobbs (5)
22 · 0/00 LITTLE CLARE 24 (Miss J Cooper) F Jordan 6-10-7 J Lodder –
23 · 0300/40 LYRELLY 28 (S) (S Price) G Price 7-10-7 Mr G Lewis (7) 71
24 · 0U-0445 MISHY'S STAR 86 (S) (Mrs V Forte) A Forte 11-10-7 Tanya Braybrook (7) 64
25 · 0 QHAWING AMDAPRAYER 88 (Mrs S Mullins) J Mullins 6-10-7 S Earle –

BETTING: 9-4 Kiwi Velocity, 5-2 Smith Too, 8-1 Just A Second, Martell Boy, 10-1 Arm In Arm, Sparkling Flame, 12-1 Cass, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

EXPRESS REALE 40d 3rd of 11 to Miss Capulet in a novice handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (3m 110yd, heavy).
SMITH TOO 37l 7th of 15 to Yorkshire Gale in a novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f 110yd, soft), with MARTELL BOY (same terms) 15l 5th. KIWI VELOCITY 14l 2nd of 13 to Beauchamp Express in a novice handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, heavy), with MARTELL BOY (12lb worse off) 6l 3rd.
Selection: SMITH TOO

SPARKING FLAME leading novice chaser in 1990/91, first run over hurdles. A SECOND 34d 2nd of 12 to Special Account in a novice hurdle at Worcester (3m, soft), with MARTELL BOY (same terms) 15l 5th. KIWI VELOCITY 14l 2nd of 13 to Beauchamp Express in a novice handicap hurdle at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, heavy), with MARTELL BOY (12lb worse off) 6l 3rd.
Selection: SMITH TOO

3.10 MALVERN NOVICES CHASE (£3,088: 2m 7f) (18 runners)

1 6/0160P- ARTFUL ARTHUR 248 (G) (Mrs P Back) J McConnochie 7-10-10 S McNeill –
2 1001-30 CAPABILITY BROWN 12 (F,S,S) (D Lewis) M Pipe 6-10-10 P Scudamore –
3 F64-54P CASTING TIME 12 (Sir Eric Parker) D Barons 9-10-10 J Frost 81
4 0/4P4 CHILTERN WAY 20 (Mrs E Barker) K Barker 7-10-10 D Stynes –
5 2 DROMINI MIST 27 (P Allwood) J Mackie 7-10-10 B Powell (5) –
6 42080-0 EVENLODE 27 (Mrs J Woolley) C Vinson Miller 9-10-10 W Humphreys 99
7 5UU50-0 MORS GUEST 19 (V,F,S) (Mrs E Hitching) R Lee 7-10-10 D Tegg 98
8 FPUB-0 JANE'S DELIGHT 24 (S) (Mrs A Price) Mrs A Price 9-10-10 Mr C Campbell (7) –
9 22322- LONTANO 235 (S,S) (Mrs L Shelly) M Charles 11-10-10 A Webb 92
10 0P-4FPP LUCK MONEY 47 (T Mathew) R Mathew 7-10-10 Mr N Bradley (7) –
11 1/P/0-P MR MAYFAIR 28 (S) (D Cundy) J Edwards 10-10-10 M Richards –
12 0310-46 NEVADA GOLD 26 (G) (Mallorwood Ltd) F Yardley 7-10-10 D Gallagher 97
13 2341-FF RAFKI 2 (S) (Mrs J May) Mrs J Retter 8-10-10 M A Fitzgerald –
14 P/05P-32 SADDLER'S CHOICE 31 (G) (Mrs I Phillips) J Edwards 8-10-10 N Williamson 90
15 FF0P4-F SAM PEPPER 10 (Mrs S Farr) Mrs S Farr 7-10-10 S Mackey –
16 4/4-25 SKY VENTURE 29 (W Bourg) C Trietline 9-10-10 A Maguire 84
17 3/0305-2 SPOONHILL WOOD 30 (R Micklethwait) J Wharton 7-10-5 S J O'Neill 94
18 · 0PP0P THIKA 64 (D Richards) J Pickering 7-10-5 D Bridgwater –

BETTING: 3-1 Saddler's Choice, 4-1 Dromini Mist, 5-1 Spoonhill Wood, 6-1 Capability Brown, 10-1 Casting Time, Mors Guest, 12-1 Lontano, Nevada Gold, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

CAPABILITY BROWN, has proved a useful handicap hurdler, distant 8th of 11 to Bocconi Children in a handicap hurdle at Wincanton last time out (2m 6l, good to soft). Makes chasing debut. DROMINI MIST 2l 2nd of 17 to Dahlia Flyer in a novice chase at Doncaster (3m, good), with EVENLODE (2lb better off) 33l 5th.
MORS GUEST 15l 3rd of 11 to The Illywhacker in a novice chase at Leicester in January (2m 4f, good). LONTANO 12l 2nd of 5 to Smarlie Express in a novice handicap chase at Warwick (2m 4f, good to firm), NEVADA GOLD 10l 4th of 7 to The Slater in a novice chase at Warwick on penultimate start (2m, soft).
SADDLER'S CHOICE 9l 2nd of 14 to Daleys Boy in a novice chase at Warwick (3m 2f, soft). SPOONHILL WOOD 1l 2nd of 11 to Bowl Of Oats in a novice handicap chase at Market Rasen (2m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: MORS GUEST

3.40 BROADWAY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,215: 2m) (8 runners)

1 1110/9 CHAMPAGNE GOLD 41 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Massey) J McConnochie 5-11-10 S McNeill –
2 FF00P- OLIVESTON 281 (D,BF,F,G,S) (C Lewis) P Nicholls 9-11-8 R Greene (5) –
3 5600/06 I'M CONFIDENT 19 (D,F,S,S) (N Babbage) N Babbage 9-11-7 V Slattery (5) –
4 1100/4 QUENTIN DURWOOD 36 (D,S) (Mrs R Bonner) Mrs J Pitman 7-11-2 M Pitman 95
5 34121/ SKITTLE ALLEY 837 (D,S) (Mrs B Meyercas) S Mellor 7-10-10 M Perrett –
6 22138/ TEKLA 547 (S) (E Lodge) A Chamberlain 8-10-10 B Powell –
7 050-530 FIRST CRACK 31 (D,F,S,S) (D Pugh) F Jordan 8-10-9 J Lodder (5)
8 0308-02 EDWARD SEYMOUR 22 (W Jenks) W Jenks 6-10-0 S J O'Neill 97

Long handicap: Edward Seymour 9-2.

BETTING: 5-2 Quentin Durwood, 4-1 First Crack, 5-1 Champagne Gold, 6-1 Skittle Alley, 8-1 Edward Seymour, Tekla, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

QUENTIN DURWOOD 31d 4th of 9 to San Lorenzo in a handicap hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, soft).
SKITTLE ALLEY beat Poacher's Delight 16l in a 13-runner novice hurdle at Taunton in April 1991 (2m 110yd, good).

FIRST CRACK 89d 3rd of 8 to Bellezza in a handicap hurdle at Taunton on penultimate start (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). EDWARD SEYMOUR 12l 2nd of 14 to Master Of The Rock in a selling hurdle at Bangor (2m 1f, soft).
Selection: QUENTIN DURWOOD

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rans	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	45	120	38.3	M Hourigan	4	11	36.4
O Sherwood	17	58	29.3	P Scudamore	45	125	36.0
R Price	3	11	27.3	A Maguire	10	46	21.7
B McMahon	3	14	21.4	N Mann	7	37	18.9
T Forster	16	77	20.8	R Dunwoody	33	209	15.8
N Twiston-Davies	7	34	20.6	S Smith Eccles	5	32	15.6

☐ Suluk continued his success story at Southwell yesterday with his thirteenth jumping victory on the all-weather track. But his supporters had to survive some anxious minutes before the result of the Stilton Conditional Jockeys' Claiming Hurdle was confirmed. Leading at the second last, the 6-4 favourite drifted across Bud's Bet before winning by three lengths. Jonathan Pullin, rider of Bud's Bet, objected but the stewards allowed the result to stand.

MARKET RASEN

MANDARIN
12.50 Bonanza.
1.20 Dara Melody.
1.50 Peaceman.
2.20 Greek Flutter.
2.50 Maridadi.
3.20 Portonia.
3.50 Simple Arithmetic.

THUNDERER
12.50 Red Rondo.
1.20 Dancing Legend.
1.50 Peaceman.
2.20 Greek Flutter.
2.50 Knock Rank.
3.20 Bow Handy Man.
3.50 Hinton Lady.

GOING: SOFT (7.30AM INSPECTION) SIS

12.50 LINCOLN CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,465: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1 34P-453 ICARUS 27 (V,CD,F,S) (N Ryall) M H Easterby 7-11-10 P Midgley 85
2 12P-11F BONANZA 48 (BF,F,G,S) (D Headham & Partners) Mrs M Reveley 6-11-2 R Hodge 90
3 4-P2F1U -DUBIOUS JAKE 22 (C,D,BF,F,S) (M Oldham) R Woodhouse 10-10-13 J Codd (5) (8)
4 0/460-U1 ANY GOSSIP 146 (S) (J McManus) J J O'Neill 10-10-12 James Jones –
5 2133-83 RED RONDO 19 (F,S,S) (J Feathers) J Edwards 9-10-11 R Farrant 96
6 /213/21- MIG 411 (CD,S) (N Mason) N Mason 8-10-0 J Supple (3) 88
7 22-0P32 RINGMORE 26 (F,S,S) (Mrs J Askew) J Parlee 11-10-0 F Leahy (5) 90
8 003PP0 DRY GIN 20 (C,F,S) (T Satchell) M Chapman 10-10-0 A Larnach 84
9 115-124 SECRET SUMMIT 27 (V,F,S) (Beamhurst Racing) A Forbes 7-10-0 T Eley 85
10 250025 RUPPLES 20 (C,F) (C Hague) M Chapman 6-10-0 W Dwan 78

Long handicap: Mig 9-13, Ringmore 9-9, Dry Gin 9-5, Secret Summit 8-4, Rupples 9-0.

BETTING: 5-4 Bonanza, 4-1 Icarus, 5-1 Red Rondo, 6-1 Dubious Jake, 8-1 Any Gossip, 10-1 Mig, 14-1 Ringmore, 20-1 Secret Summit, 25-1 Rupples, 33-1 Dry Gin.

1992: KISSANE 11-11-10 M Jones (15-8 fav) C Broad 7 ran

1.20 JANUARY SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,810: 2m 1f 110yd) (15 runners)

1 6013-2P HENBURY HALL 20 (G) (M Barraclough) M Barraclough 5-12-0 Mr A Farrant (5) 87
2 0351P-3 SOLID 80 (J McBarron) D Cosgrove 5-11-5 D Walsh (5) 92
3 1131-06 OLD PEG 52 (S,CD,F) (Mrs J Fowler) R Manning 5-11-4 R Farrant (5) 97
4 00P4 PORT IN A STORM 3F (S Bermingham) N Tinkler 4-11-0 G McCourt 80
5 326 DARA MELODY 42 (Mrs F Pelton) Jimmy Fitzgerald 4-10-13 M Dwyer 81
6 PF56 BLUSHING GOLD 30 (J Grigg) Mrs J Jordan 4-10-12 M Sharratt 80
7 055-0P0 RUN MILADY 10 (B) (Scotmont Racing Ltd) Mrs S Austin 5-10-10 D Wilkinson 96
8 60043 HOT TIP 27 (J Manley) J Eyre 4-10-10 A Mulholland 80
9 31-R005 DANCING LEGEND 27 (S) (W Sellers) J Parlee 5-10-7 F Leahy (7) 98
10 03-0433 IT'S NOT MY FAULT 12 (B,BF) (R Peate) D Weale 5-10-2 P McDermott 93
11 F000 VAISLY MASON 37 (Mrs S Mason) M H Easterby 4-10-2 R Garritty –
12 P-R0000 REZA 27 (C Baker) J Eyre 5-10-0 M Wheelan (7) 84
13 0-3P9 TRENTSIDE MIST 20 (J Payne) C Smith 5-10-0 M Ringer (5)
14 0P-0P APPLIED GRAPHICS 20 (Applied Signs Ltd) J Mackie 5-10-0 T Eley (5) 80
15 P60POP LA PEREET 47 (B,CD,F) (J Hughes) *B Richmond 5-10-0* *D Byrne* 90

Long handicap: Reza 9-13, Trentside Mist, 9-12, Applied Graphics 9-11, La Peeret 9-1.

BETTING: 4-1 Dara Melody, 9-2 It's Not My Fault, 6-1 Old Peg, 8-1 Port In A Storm, Solid, 10-1 Dancing Legend, Henbury Hall, Trentside Mist, 14-1 Vaisly Mason, 16-1 others.

1992: KRONPRINZ 4-11-8 D Bridgwater (5-1) C Trietline 13 ran

1.50 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(Qualifier: £2,480: 2m 1f 110yd) (15 runners)

1 2330-11 PEACEMAN 36 (S) (Sir Peter Oppenheimer) Mrs D Haine 7-11-10 P Hide (7) (8)
2 3-5 FULL O'PRAISE 78 (Lord Zetland) P Calver 6-11-0 T Reed 88
3 0 GRIFFINS BAR 45 (M Smith) Mrs P Sly 5-11-0 A Carroll –
4 0P HARRYS CASTLE 30 (H Atkinson) J Wainwright 7-11-0 M Dwyer –
5 4/PP- HIGHLAND RALLY 313 (K Hanson) M Avison 6-11-0 R Garritty –
6 · MIRAGE OF WINDSOR (Mrs B Curley) B Curley 5-11-0 D Murphy –
7 34F MR SNIPE 19 (P Tylor) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-0 R Hodge –
8 *60-0 MY DAD FRANK 15 (T Hewitt) J Mackie 7-11-0* *W McFarland* –
9 · STRATHBOGIE MIST (W Sellers) J Parlee 5-11-0 N Smith –
10 5PP STUDFORD 27 (T Fawcett) M W Easterby 5-11-0 C Grant –
11 1-46 TOOGOOD TO BE TRUE 62 (S) (J McGrath) M H Easterby 5-11-0 L Wyer 90
12 5 TOP BRASS 19 (Top Brass Partnership) K Bailey 5-11-0 A Tory 92
13 60P- WIDORI 257 (Mrs A Tomlinson) Mrs A Tomlinson 5-10-9 P Midgley (5) –
14 00-000 THOR STONE 19 (A Jennings) E Owen 5-10-9 A Larnach (5) 84
15 54-1 WORDY'S WONDER 47 (S) (L Wordingham) L Wordingham 5-10-9 S Curran (7) –

BETTING: 5-4 Peaceman, 4-1 Top Brass, 6-1 Toogood To Be True, 8-1 Mirage Of Windsor, 10-1 Full O'Praise, 12-1 Mr Snipe, Wordy's Wonder, 16-1 Studford, 20-1 Strathbogie Mist, 25-1 others.

1992: EASBY MANDRINA 5-10-2 Mr S Lyons (9-2) S Kellowell 12 ran

2.20 HORNCASTLE NOVICES CHASE (£2,865: 2m 1f 110yd) (8 runners)

1 213/512 GREEK FLUTTER 19 (S,S) (J Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-10 M Dwyer (8)
2 20-P415 MILITARY HONOUR 19 (S,S,S) (J Sellers) J Sellers 9-11-10 Mr S Sellers 79
3 F4531P OLD ROAD 29 (S) (G Wiltshire) D Wintle 7-11-10 Mr T Jenks (7) 72
4 006P0- BRUCE'S CASTLE 254 (Mrs B Bill) B Rothwell 7-11-4 B Storey –
5 /5001/P HALLBOROUGH 10 (W Imlson) Mrs P Barker

Rangers continue to conquer in no-win situation


Smith: guarded

David Miller meets a manager who seems on the surface to have the perfect job but finds success bringing its own set of problems

Walter Smith has one of the strangest jobs in football: attempting to build a team as good as any in Europe, yet with only the occasional opportunity to measure the level of his success. To work in Glasgow with Rangers is, in effect, to work in the dark.

Every famous club in Europe, whether it is Real Madrid, Milan, Bayern Munich or Manchester United, has a more accurate week-by-week thermometer by which to calculate progress or recession. Rangers, with a stadium second to none and a multi-million pound team assembled thanks to the backing of David Murray, have little more for measurement than the level of their willpower and Smith's own instinct.

Allowing for a natural Scottish pride, his detached, objective view is that the standard of the Scottish premier division is higher than is supposed. "Liam Brady was saying this only the other day, that outsiders would be surprised at the difficulty [in Scotland] of competing consistently," Smith reflects.

Yet the facts speak otherwise. Rangers are, possibly, the best team in Britain not because of the quality of competition but because of their professionalism, their management and their money. There is always the risk that they might unexpectedly be found out.

Only once this season, in a 2-2 draw at home to Marseilles in the European champions' league, have they been threatened with exposure. They recovered, with massive encouragement from a crowd of 41,000, from two goals down and remain in contention for the final: a prize won by their arch-rivals 26 years ago.

Other than this, in all competitions they have lost only once this season, away to Dundee in August. That may be a compliment to Gough, Steven, McCoist, Hateley and the rest, yet for the satisfactory operation of a hugely expensive club it is potentially a nightmare. With their season just over half complete, Rangers are already almost unchallengeable for the league title. The complacency that this breeds among their spectators was all too apparent on Tuesday night, when they led by two goals at half-time at home to Dundee United.

Another crowd of 41,000 could barely stifle a yawn, and it was only when United hit back with two goals — Rangers having lost Gough with a thigh injury at half-time — that the Ibrox roar came to life again. It is difficult to sustain the financial success of a long-running show when the audience, always the same people, know the conclusion of the final act even before the first curtain.

How much more would this situation be emphasised if Smith, as he intends, makes his squad even stronger? Brady has already stated — and been pilloried for his honesty by the other half of Glasgow — that Celtic are effectively out of the hunt for the title already, 12 points behind in third place. Aberdeen, in second place, are seven points adrift.

The only viable long-term future for Rangers must be a European super league in some form. Then, and only then, can Smith really discern how good is his team, and his management. Only then can Murray have any guarantee of sustaining the finances required for what he has built.

The occasional incompetence Rangers exhibited against the more coherent moments of Dundee United resistance on Tuesday suggests, however, that a single below-par performance on the wrong evening could jeopardise their European ambitions this season.

Smith guardedly acknowleges this. "We have to make slight adjustments [in European competition]," he says. "We have to be more careful in possession, not to give the ball away easily against teams such as Marseilles. In domestic football it's much easier to win it back."

The prominent players, he says, are better because of their international experience: McPherson and Gough, for example, having had to handle the likes of van Basten and Völler. "Not in gaining technique, which won't happen at their age, but learning tactically what to do — and what not to do," Smith says.

The irony of that, of course, is that the experience was gained playing for Scotland, not for the club; a further illustration of the difficulty of creating a great Scottish club side. Maybe Rangers are the best in Britain; certainly they were, predictably, better than the declining English champions, Leeds United, though whether they would be superior to Manchester United, Aston Villa or Norwich City is another matter.

In Smith's judgment, the best European teams are now even more formidable because they have acquired British-style physical discipline to add to their own technique. "It used to be the British quality," Smith says. "Now the foreigners have it, as well as their possession game. Teams like Marseilles use pressing tactics and were excellent for an hour. Then we got back, thanks to a terrific match from Hateley."

The problem for Murray, and for Smith, is that finance generated this season must go towards removing the overdraft on the stadium, rather than on increasing the depth of the squad, which Smith knows he needs to do in the short-term. Both in playing terms, and financially, Rangers are caught in a cleft stick. Having said that, they will nonetheless be envied by every club in England.

FOOTBALL

Gillespie is seen as herald of a new era by Ferguson

BY IAN ROSS

IT WAS once said that all a young player had to do to gain acceptance at Manchester United was ensure that at some point during his debut at Old Trafford, he dipped a shoulder, cut inside his marker and raced towards the nearest touchline with the speed of a bullet.

A simple enough formula for instant success perhaps, especially at a club that unashamedly encourages artistry among its players and which demands that individuals are free to express themselves, irrespective of circumstances.

On Tuesday night, in a less than attractive FA Cup third round tie against Bury, Keith Gillespie was given the opportunity to illuminate the so-called Theatre of Dreams with a talent which, while undeniably precocious, is still clearly in need of some fine tuning.

For all the shortcomings which invariably accompany naivety and inexperience, Gillespie, at the age of 17, would appear to have an enviable future. After marking his senior debut with a goal and an "assist" in a far from convincing 2-0 victory, praise for the youngster from Larne in Northern Ireland was kept to a bare minimum.

It was a predictable exercise in shepherding by Alex Ferguson, for nobody is more acutely aware than he that the dividing line between success and failure is extremely narrow at British football's most august institution.

Ironically, the weakest part of Gillespie's game was crossing, one of the more potent weapons in his armoury according to his manager.

"Crossing is arguably his strongest point but I do not feel that he was at his best in that particular department against Bury," Ferguson said.

"To be fair to him, he had not played a game since mid-December because of the postponement of junior fixtures so he was tired and suffering from cramp in the final 20 minutes or so.

"Having said that, it was a very good debut for him. He scored one and he made our other goal for Michael Phelan and you can't really ask for any more.

"The main thing is he deserved this appearance. He has been in the senior squad before without actually starting a game.

"With Giggs and Kanchelskis both unavailable because of injury, it seemed the ideal time to bring him in," he added.

"Keith Gillespie is just one of a group of players who are coming up through the ranks. I believe that they will come through en block to challenge for first team places. I have never known a situation like this before.

"Last season, we had 18 apprentices, and all will get contracts. We do not have a doubt about any of them not making their mark in the game.

"This has never happened to me in my career and I doubt whether it has happened to any manager."

Ferguson's unprecedented level of faith in his fledglings, is such that he was recently moved to tempt fate in unfamiliar and quite outlandish manner.

"I hesitate to say this but people around Old Trafford do believe that we have the finest crop of kids since the Busby Babes," he said. "I have three and a half years of my contract left and I aim to be here to see those youngsters develop and come through into the first team."

Shortly after leaving the pitch on Tuesday night, his finest hour complete, Gillespie was informed that he would not be required for Saturday's important Premier League fixture against Tottenham Hotspur and that his next appearance for his club would be against Notts County in an FA Youth Club tie.

Blow for Rangers as Gough is ruled out

RICHARD Gough, the Rangers captain, will be out of action for about three weeks after suffering a recurrence of an old thigh injury. Gough was hurt in the first half of the league match with Dundee United at Ibrox on Tuesday and required hospital treatment for internal bleeding to his leg.

The Scottish international defender was detained for a second night for observation.

Smith also learnt yesterday that Ian Ferguson will be out for a couple of games because of a broken finger.

Jan Molby, the Liverpool midfield player, trained for the first time yesterday following a 13-week absence and hopes to play for the Liverpool A team on Saturday. He has been absent since injuring his ankle against Manchester United in October.

Bruce Grobbelaar's international plans have been put on hold because of a civil war. The goalkeeper was expecting to fly to Africa this weekend to play for Zimbabwe in their World Cup qualifying game against Angola but will now be available for his club.

Arsenal's FA Cup fourth round tie against either Leeds United or Charlton Athletic at Highbury has been switched to Monday January 25 and will be shown live by BSkyB.


Winning run: Schneider rounds a gate on her way to victory yesterday in the World Cup slalom in Maribor

Wiberg's season ends in slalom despair

FROM DAVID POWELL IN MARIBOR

EMMA Carrick-Anderson's World Cup debut did not get as far as the start hut here yesterday but, compared with the fate which befell Pernilla Wiberg, the young Briton was the fortunate one. Wiberg, the world and Olympic giant slalom champion, ruptured an Achilles tendon, putting her out of her world title defence next month.

Severe weather in northern Italy left Carrick-Anderson, Britain's brightest young prospect, stranded and unable to reach this Slovenian town for yesterday's slalom. But there is always next week. Not for Wiberg, though: a season in which she was chasing hard for the overall World Cup lead is over.

Wiberg caught a gate, lost a ski, suffered her injury and was taken to hospital. "She was very distressed," Grady Jeter, the medic who tended to her, said.

Quite apart from the skier's disappointment, it is a further blow for the world championships, which begin in Morioka, Japan, on February 3. In the last fortnight the event has lost both overall World Cup champions. Paul Accola is injured and Petra Kronberger has retired.

Wiberg, 22, was flown home for an operation. Jeter added that she should make a comlete recovery in time for the Winter Olympics.

In a few months Wiberg might be seeking her old job back. Two years ago, after knee trouble, she worked as a postwoman, delivering mail on a bicycle as rehabilitation. Her fitness secured, she then built a reputation as Sweden's female Ingemar Stenmark.

The expectation placed on Carrick-Anderson is relatively low but she brings hope that Britain may at last have a skier capable of winning an Olympic medal. At 17, and with an Olympic seventeenth place behind her, this was to have been her World Cup debut.

However, snowdrifts clogged up the roads from Corno Alle Scale, in northern Italy, where Carrick-Anderson had skied in a warm-up race on Tuesday. When Kurt Scherl, the British team coach, realised they would not reach Maribor until after midnight they abandoned the journey.

Victory yesterday went to Vreni Schneider, proof enough that Carrick-Anderson has time in abundance. Schneider is winning again at 28. Olympic slalom and giant slalom champion in 1988, and overall World Cup winner in 1989, Schneider then struggled and this season she had yet to triumph.

Angelo Mainar, her coach, had given her a good talking to. Finishing third in the giant slalom on Tuesday convinced Schneider that he was right. "It was very important to be third," Schneider said to Mainar yesterday morning. "Now I can win today."

Words that Mainar wanted to hear. And skiing from Schneider he wanted to see.

RESULTS: Women's World Cup slalom: 1, V Schneider (Switz), 1:39.11; 2, A Coberger (NZ), 1:40.42; 3, D Compagnoni (It), 1:41.01; 4, K Andersson (Swed), 1:41.01; 5, J Parrilon (US), 1:41.25; 6, I Salvenmoser (Austria), 1:41.35; 7, P Chauvet (Fr), 1:41.36; 8, M Gallizio (It), 1:41.87; 9, E Eder (Austria), 1:42.46; 10, K Neuenschwander (Switz), 1:42.67. World Cup standings: Overall (after 10 events): 1, A Wachter (Aut), 415pts; 2, P Wiberg (Swe), 319; 3, U Maier (Aut), 280; 4, C Merle (Fr), 273; 5, Schneider, 270. Slalom (after 9 races): 1, Coberger, 220; 2, Wiberg, 180; equal 3, Schneider and Parrilon, 150.

TENNIS

Spanish couple through to final

Perth: Emilio Sánchez and his sister Arantxa fought back brilliantly to earn Spain a place in the final of the Hopman Cup mixed teams tournament here yesterday, gaining an exciting 2-1 win over the Czech Republic.

The Spanish pair beat Petr Korda and Jana Novotna by 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 in two hours 20 minutes in the deciding mixed doubles, after Korda had levelled the tie at 1-1 by winning the men's singles match by 6-3, 6-4.

Spain, hoping to become the first country to win the trophy twice, will now play the winners of today's match between Germany, the top seeds, and France.

Korda dictated the first set of the mixed doubles with lethal serving and aggressive net play. But the Spaniards then sensibly concentrated their returns on a rather hesitant Novotna and got what proved a vital break on her serve in the fourth game of the second set.

After two early breaks for both pairs in the third set, Novotna lost her service again at 5-5 and the Spaniards made no mistake on their second match point.

Korda said afterwards he was totally exhausted. "They were better than us in the end but I think I need a bed right now."

The world No. 6 had gained a clinical success in his singles, service breaks in each set proving sufficient to beat a lower-ranked opponent.

Korda, though not serving with same penetration as in his quarter-final victory over Wally Masur, of Australia, still had too much power for Sánchez, hitting 23 outright winners to his opponent's four.

Novotna, who has been in poor form during the tournament, lost her singles by 6-3, 6-3 in 90 minutes. Her serve let her down badly and she committed 31 unforced errors, after starting well by twice breaking service as she raced to a 3-0 lead. *(Reuter)*

FOOTBALL

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Second division: Cardiff 1, Swansea 3 Postponed: Yeovil v Birmingham

Late results on Tuesday

FA CUP: Third round: Manchester United 2, Bury 0.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Second division: Blackpool 0, Swansea City 0.

AUTOGLASS TROPHY: First round: AFC Bournemouth 1, Reading 1; Plymouth Argyle 1, Exeter City 1; West Bromwich Albion 4, Walsall 0.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Rangers 3, Dundee United 2. Second division: Arbroath 0, Berwick 1

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Watford 1, Chelsea 2.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester City 2, Bolton 3. Second division: Everton 4, Port Vale 2, Oldham 5, West Bromwich 1.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: Windsor and Eton v Bishop's Stortford. First division: Leyton 4, Uxbridge 4. Second division: Worthing 2, Metropolitan Police 2.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 1, Burton 1; Dover 5, Cambridge City 0, Bashley 2, Hastings 1; Cheltenham 4, Worcester 1; Gloucester 1, Dorchester 0; Trowbridge 3, Moor Green 2. Midland division: Bridgnorth 0, Newport AFC 1. Southern division: Baldock 3, Wokingham 4; Braintree 4, Canterbury 0; Sudbury 5, Buckingham 2. Barclays Commercial Services Cup: Third round: Nuneaton 2, Tamworth 1.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Challenge Cup: Chorley 1, Whitley Bay 3. Postponed: Gainsborough Trinity v Accrington Stanley. FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Tottenham 1, Norwich 2; Wycombe 1, Brighton 1; Swindon 5, Arsenal 2.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: English British Gas Trophy: Fourth round, replay: Vale of White Horse 5, Aldershot 1.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Los Angeles Lakers 91, Chicago Bulls 88, New York Knicks 85, Cleveland Cavaliers 91; Phoenix Suns 105, Houston Rockets 104; Utah Jazz 113, San Antonio Spurs 87; Portland Trail Blazers 103, Dallas Mavericks 95; Boston Celtics 107, Charlotte Hornets 103, New Jersey Nets 102, Orlando Magic 99; Washington Bullets 107, Atlanta Hawks 100; Indiana Pacers 114, Los Angeles Clippers 106; Miami Heat 89, Detroit Pistons 83, Milwaukee Bucks 114, Minnesota Timberwolves 100; Seattle SuperSonics 116, Golden State Warriors 108; Sacramento Kings 126, Denver Nuggets 106.

BOXING

BILOXI, Mississippi: Heavyweight bout: Larry Holmes (US) bt Everett Martin (US), pts, 10 rnds

CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: The Baron Oertzen Cup: 1, Lord Bledisloe, 126.21sec; 2, A Aptiz, 126.92; 3, L Marenzi, 126.85; 4, G Cattaneo, 127.54; 5, A Rayner, 127.63; 6, A Gatti, 127.74.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Quebec Nordiques 2, New York Islanders 1; Pittsburgh Penguins 6, Boston Bruins 2; St Louis Blues 6, Edmonton Oilers 1; Winnipeg Jets 4, Calgary Flames 2; Montreal Canadiens 2, San Jose Sharks 1.

RALLYING

PARIS-DAKAR: First African stage (Fez, Morocco, to Beni Ounif, Algeria, 295km): Cars: 1, E Weber and M Hamer (Ger), Mitsubishi, 1hr 04min 26sec; 2, B Saby and D Seneys (Fr), Mitsubishi, at 1min 33sec; 3, A Vatanen (Fin) and C Delferier (Fr), Citroen, at 3-37. Others: 7, T Salonen (Fin) and F Gallagher (GB), Citroen, at 14:26. Motorcycles: 1, S Peterhansel (Fr), Yamaha, 3hr 22min 00sec.

REAL TENNIS

MELBOURNE: World championship elimination: Third leg: L Deuchar (Aus) bt J Soane (GB), 6-2 (Deuchar wins overall 7 sets to 2, 6-5, 6-4, 6-1, 5-6, 3-6, 6-1, 6-5, 6-3, 6-2.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Wigan 4, Warrington 11. Second division: Huddersfield 20, Featherstone Rovers 24. Third division: Barrow 6, Workington 30.

YOUNGERS ALLIANCE: First division: Wakefield Trinity 16, Castleford 18.

SKIING

REIT-IM-WINKL, Germany: Nordic combined World Cup event: 1, Japan, ski jumping 457.7 points, 15km cross-country 43min 10.6sec; 2, Estonia, 405.5, 1:59.5 behind; 3, Germany, 414.5, 2:04.9. Overall (after five events): 1, Japan, 318 points; 2, Norway, 168; 3, Germany, 149.

ALTENMARKT, Austria: British junior downhill championships: Men: 1, T Spaul (Austria), 1min 22.38sec; 2, E Kogler (Austria), 1:24.03; 3, P Pardi (Austria), 1:24.87. British: 5, D Cook, 1:25.50. Women: 1, L Robertson (GB), 1:32.04; 2, K Morris (GB), 1:34.88; 3, S Sharp (GB), 1:35.93.

LES MENUIRES, France: British University championships: Individual giant slalom: Men: 1, M Folkman (Edinburgh), 2min 04.20sec; 2, R Cadiz (St Andrews), 2:04.38; 3, N Rees (Aberdeen), 2:07.53. Women: 1, S Gray (Edinburgh), 1:22.17; 2, N Massalick (Oxford), 1:25.44; 3, C Warry-White (Southampton), 1:25.47. Teams: Women: 1, Edinburgh, 126.77sec; 2, Southampton, 144.82; 3, Manchester, 148.10.

SKI JUMPING

BISCHOFSHOFEN, Austria: Four hills competition: 1, A Goldberger (Austria), 237.10pts; 2, N Kasai (Japan), 235.10; 3, D Mollard (Fr), 227.30. Overall (after 4 hills): 1, Goldberger, 920.8; 2, Kasai, 898.7; 3, J Salsola (Cz), 854.8. Overall World Cup standings (after nine events): 1, W Rathmayr (Austria), 139 points; 2, A Goldberger (Austria), 117; 3, N Kasai (Japan), 86; equal 4, C Duffner (Ger) and J Salsola (Cz Rep), 66.

SQUASH

LAMBS CLUB, LONDON: British junior open championships: Finals: Boys: Under-19: J Rennie (Cheshire) bt A Toes (Yorkshire), 10-8, 9-2, 9-3. Under-16: A Barada (Egypt) bt M Cowie (Norfolk), 4-9, 2-9, 9-4, 9-1, 9-8.

SWIMMING

SHANGHAI, China: World Cup short course meet: Men: 200m freestyle: A Holmertz (Swe), 1min 45.83sec. 200m backstroke: T Weber (Ger), 1:58.81. 100m butterfly: D Loader (NZ), 53.16 sec. 200m individual medley: C Keller (Ger), 1:58.73. 50m freestyle: M Pinger (Ger), 22.52 sec. 50m backstroke: T Weber (Ger), 25.89sec. 1,000m freestyle: A Holmertz (Swe), 9:57.46. Women: 200m butterfly: L Limin (China), 2:10.32. 200m breaststroke: H Xiaomin (China), 2:25.69. 100m freestyle: F Van Almsick (Ger), 53.48sec. 100m backstroke: X Lei (China), 1:01.20. 100m individual medley: L Carlsson (Swe), 1:03.05. 400m freestyle: M Nilsson (Swe), 4:11.80. 50m breaststroke: H Xiaomin (China), 31.67. 50m butterfly: L Carlsson (Swe), 27.42. 400m individual medley: J Haas (Ger), 4:43.24.

TENNIS

QATAR: Open tournament: First round: M Gonzalez (Sp) bt M Rosset (Switz), 5-7, 7-6, 2-0 rtd; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt J Balboa (GB), 6-3, 6-3; J Sanchez (Sp) bt M Jansen (US), 6-2, 6-3; S Edberg (Swe) bt K Brassch (Ger), 6-3, 7-6; P Kuhnen (Ger) bt T Carbonell (Sp), 2-6, 6-4, 6-1; B Wuyts (Bel) bt V Amritraj (In), 6-2, 6-4; A Cherkasov (Russ) bt V El Aynaoui (Mor), 6-3, 5-7, 6-4; P Kuehnen (Ger) bt M Schapers (Holl), 7-5, 6-2.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand: BP Challenger tournament: First round: R Smith (Barb) bt A Hunt (NZ), 6-3, 6-7, 0-2. Second division: B Steven (NZ) bt S Lareau (Can), 6-0, 7-5; K Thoms (US) bt C Garner (US), 6-1, 6-4; B Black (Zim) bt J Renzenbrink (Ger), 6-3, 7-6; P Moraing (Ger) bt D Dosedel (Cz), 7-6, 2-6, 6-4.

BRISBANE: Australian women's hard-court championships: Second round: L Davenport (US) bt C Wood (GB), 6-3, 6-2; J Halard (Fr) bt M Dedic (Can), 7-5, 6-1; S Wang (Tai) bt E De Lone (US), 6-4, 6-3; N Baudone (It) bt P Thoren (Fin), 6-3, 6-4. Third round: F Labat (Arg) bt (x) R Zrubakova (Slovakia), 6-1, 7-5; C Martinez (Sp) bt M Oremans (Holl), 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

ADELAIDE: Australian men's hardcourt championships: Second round: C Poline (Fr) bt T Martin (US), 6-4, 6-1; A Volkov (Russ) bt M Nastase (Ger), 6-2, 6-1; C Bergstrom (Swe) bt D Rostagno (US), 6-3, 6-2; N Kulti (Swe) bt J Morgan (Aus), 6-4, 6-4; N Kulti (Swe) bt J Morgan (Aus), 6-4, 6-4; C Bergstrom (Swe) bt D Rostagno (US), 6-3, 6-2.

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Open: Singles: F Santoro (Fr) bt G Raoux (Fr), 6-4, 6-2; C Pritcham (Can) bt A Mronz (Ger), 6-4, 7-5; O Delaitre (Fr) bt L Lavalle (Mex), 6-4, 6-2; D Prinosil (US) bt S-O Pedersen (Nor), 6-4, 6-3.

PERTH: Hopman Cup: Semi-final: Spain bt Czech Republic, 2-1 (Spanish names first: A Sánchez Vicario bt J Novotna, 6-3, 6-3; P Korda bt E Sanchez, 6-3, 6-4; Sánchez and Sánchez Vicario bt Korda and Novotna, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5.

FOOTBALL

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Stoke v Blackburn (7.0). Second division: York v Wigan (7.0).

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Yetton Trophy women's inter-club championship, third round.

DARTS: Embassy world professional championships (Frimley Green).

TABLE TENNIS: England v France (Grantham).

Curtain falls on Ditka's rule

BY ROBERT KIRLEY

WHEN the Chicago Bears dismissed Mike Ditka as coach on Tuesday, the National Football League (NFL) lost one of its most flamboyant and successful figures. Ditka's tempestuous 11-year tenure ended after the Bears managed just five wins in 16 games, their worst record in 17 years.

In 1982, he took over a club that had enjoyed just two winning campaigns in two decades. The Bears were 11-14 in his first two seasons but went 10-6 in 1984, taking the first of six division titles. Ditka's Bears made the play-offs seven times. Led by Walter Payton, Jim McMahon, Mike Singletary and William "The Refrigerator" Perry, they won the Super Bowl with panache in 1986. Ditka became the embodiment of rugged, snarling Chicago football, not to mention the star of numerous lucrative advertising campaigns.

A superb player in the Sixties and Seventies — he was the first tight end elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame — "Iron Mike" thrived on hard work and a volcanic temper. A big man with an intimidating gaze, he used his redoubtable wit to withering effect in numerous run-ins with players, reporters and supporters.

Ditka, 53, has been invited to remain with the club as a consultant. He had one year remaining on a non-guaranteed contract that paid about $900,000 (£588,000) a year. He was hired by the founder of the club, the late George "Papa Bear" Halas, who had coached him from the start of his playing career in 1961 until he was traded to the Philadelphia Eagles in 1967.


Ditka: volcanic temper

He was dismissed by Halas's grandson, Michael McCaskey, the club president, with whom he had had an uneasy relationship. McCaskey was Harvard doctorate; Ditka was Pennsylvania coalfields.

Ditka compiled a 112-68 record, including 6-6 in play-off games. The 107 wins during his first ten seasons represented a mark surpassed by only three other coaches in NFL history.

In their Super Bowl season, the Bears won 18 of 19 games and Ditka was named coach of the year. He was coach of the year again in 1988 for achieving a league-best record of 12-4 and reaching the conference championship game despite sustaining a mild heart attack in mid-season. He spurned advice and returned to work within a week.

He also underwent a hip replacement, which barely curtailed his roller-skating down the corridors at club headquarters. For all of his outbursts and antics, his stewardship was never dull. The staid and stoic NFL coaching fraternity will not be the same without him.

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part of her fictional alter-ego at Melodrama is substituted for observed by her American editors. [illegible]

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BBC1

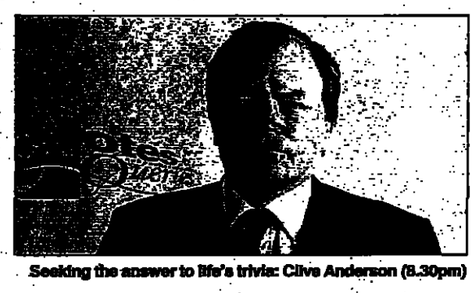
6.00 Business Breakfast (83552) **7.00 Breakfast News** (85697259)
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (9379281) **9.45 Ross King.** Quiz game. The guest is the actress and singer Patti Boulaye (s) (3471823)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (4060945) **10.05 Playdays.** For the very young (r) (s) (2610674)
10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. Today's edition includes fashion news, a television preview, a romantic story, keep fit exercises and a medical phone-in. With **News** (Ceefax) and weather at **11.00** and **12.00** (67892741)
12.15 Pebble Mill. Alan Titchmarsh is joined by Richard Johnson and Claire Higgins (s) (3614281) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (24388113)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (14113)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (58126842) **1.50 First Letter First.** Word game hosted by Don Maclean (s) (58200858)
2.15 Film: Dakota Incident (1956) starring Dale Robertson and Linda Darnell. Standard western about a stagecoach and its disparate collection of passengers threatened by marauding Indians. Directed by Lewis R. Foster (7013991)
3.40 Cartoon (1324151) **3.50 Rupert** (r) (9528668) **3.55 Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams.** A new 13-part musical series starring Matthew Devitt and Sophie Aldred (s) (7915991) **4.10 Jackanory.** Bernard Cribbins, Richard Braine and Penelope Nice with the first of a two-part story, *Sir Quinton Quest Hunts the Yeti* (5493552) **4.25 The New Yogi Bear Show** (r) (9508002) **4.30 Maid Marian and Her Merry Men.** Episode one of a new six-part comedy drama by Tony Robinson starring Kate Lonergan and Wayne Morris. (Ceefax) (s) (3261026)
4.55 Newsround (6295216) **5.05 Blue Peter.** (Ceefax) (s) (3806674)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (357129). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) Weather (129)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (281). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Top of the Pops (s) (5465)
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (465)
8.00 Wildlife on One: March of the Flamebirds.
● CHOICE: A stunning film by the Botswana naturalist Tim Liversedge follows a huge colony of flamingos to an unlikely watering hole in the Kalahari desert. For most of the time the Makgadikgadi Pans, a vast area of salt flats, is too hot and dry to sustain much wildlife. But every few years the rains come and turn the pans into a shallow lake. As this happens thousands of flamingos fly in to breed. The birds must pair off, nest and raise their young before the waters dry up. The greater flamingos make it in time. The lesser flamingos do not and 40,000 frail chicks are forced to make a 50-mile march in scorching heat to find drinkable water. They provide Liversedge with dramatic footage. Most notable are his helicopter shots of baby flamingos dotted against the bare landscape as they make their heroic bid for survival. (Ceefax) (s) (4113)
8.30 The Brittas Empire. The return of the comedy series starring Chris Barrie as the well-meaning but infuriating manager of a council leisure centre. (Ceefax) (s) (3620)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (1674)
9.30 Film: Mask (1985) starring Cher and Eric Stoltz. A moving story, based on fact, about a teenaged boy badly disfigured from a rare bone disease and his unconventional biker mother. He lives life to the full, treating each day as though it may be his last, and has three ambitions — to get a girl to fall in love with him, to motorbike around Europe and to wean his mother off her drugs dependency. Directed by Peter Bogdanovich. (Ceefax) (892723)
11.25 Law and Order. American crime series (r) (s) (769200)
12.10am Weather (1896156). Ends at **12.15**
3.00 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update (81069). Ends at **4.00**



Caring for her disfigured son: hippy mother Cher (9.30pm)

BBC2

8.00 Breakfast News (4562939) **8.15 Travel Show UK Mini Guides.** Loch Ness and Inverness (7603649) **8.20 Ours To Keep.** The renaissance of Spitalfields in London's East End (r) (7057026)
9.00 Film: The Last Days of Pompeii (1935, b/w) starring Preston Foster and Basil Rathbone. Dated epic about a blacksmith who sets his sights on becoming a champion gladiator. Directed by Ernest B. Schoedsack (60026)
10.30 Film: Intermezzo (1936, b/w) Touching drama about an illicit affair between a young pianist (Ingrid Bergman) and an older, married violinist (Gosta Ekman). Directed by Gustaf Molander. In Swedish with English subtitles (10378)
12.00 Special Children Special Project. How youngsters with severe learning difficulties and profound disabilities are being found new homes through the Barnardo's Special Fostering Project (r) (70620)
12.30 Today's Gourmet. Jacques Pépin prepares gratin of scallions, ragout of rabbit with cornmeal au gruyère and salad, a fresh fruit salad with minted apricot fondue (r) (29484)
1.00 The Good Old Way. Ewan MacColl and Peggy Seeger explore how traditional music is presented and its role in a modern world (r) (60891755) **1.20 Pigeon Street** (r) (64929991)
1.35 The Wild Side of Town. How Britain can replace some of the 40 per cent of broadleaf woodland lost since 1949 (r) (60083561)
2.00 News and weather (94596026) followed by **In the Garden.** Jobs to be done in January (r) (90218216) **2.15 Advice Shop.** Welfare rights magazine (4272552)
3.00 News and weather (9498668) followed by **World Darts** (50113)
4.30 Catchword. Word game hosted by Paul Coia (s) (378)
5.00 Behind the Headlines with Lord Archer and Tony Banks, MP (6571) **5.30 Food and Drink** (r) (s) (858)
6.00 Film: Tension at Table Rock (1956) starring Richard Egan, Dorothy Malone and Cameron Mitchell. Efficient though derivative western about a man unjustly branded a coward who moves to another town to clear his name. Directed by Charles Marquis Warren (90194). Wales: Help Your Child with Reading 6.15 Italianissimo 6.30 Channel Hopping 7.00 Advice Shop
7.30 First Sight: Behaving Badly. A report on the search by two families for the right care for their children diagnosed as having "challenging behaviour". Northern Ireland: The European Challenge; Wales: Careering Ahead; East: Matter of Fact; Midlands: Midlands Report; North, North-east, and North-west: Close Up North; South: Southern Eye; South-west: Close Up; West: Close Up West (197)
8.00 The Essential History of Europe. A portrait of Germany through the eyes of a young Berlin artist, a psychotherapist and an archaeologist (s) (2755)



Seeking the answer to life's trivia: Clive Anderson (8.30pm)

8.30 Notes and Queries with Clive Anderson. A new series in which the barrister and wit ponders life's imponderables (s) (1262)
9.00 Joking Apart.
● CHOICE: First shown in this one-off pilot, Steven Moffatt's black and acerbic comedy about divorce has been promoted to a series. The show deals with the marriage and separation of Mark (Robert Bathurst) and Becky (Fiona Gillies). He is a television comedy writer who proceeds through life in a series of gags. "It is difficult to talk," his wife complains, "when half the conversation is conducted in punchlines." Unsurprisingly she walks out. But if the relationship collapses in the first episode how is Moffatt to sustain a series? He has two strategies. One is to recall the troubled marriage in flashback. The other is to subject the abandoned Mark to well-meaning but unwanted sympathy from two friends (Paul Raffield and Tracie Bennett). The idea is shaping well but be warned: this is humour with a painful edge (s) (9216)
9.30 The Trouble With Medicine: Code of Silence. The first of eight films about modern medicine (s) (942991)
10.20 Wayne's World. The comedy slot from America's late night satire show *Saturday Night Live* (r). (Ceefax) (118129)
10.30 Newsnight with Sue Cameron (116295)
11.15 World Darts. The last two quarter-finals (s) (777378)
12.15am Behind the Headlines (r) (73175) **12.45 Weather** (3313663)

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV. Today's guests include Victoria Wicks and David Swift, stars of Channel 4's award-winning comedy *Drop the Dead Donkey*, which begins a new series tonight (7712755)
9.25 Runway. Quiz show hosted by Richard Madeley (9949261) **9.55 London Today** and weather (2523194)
10.00 The Time ... The Place ... Topical discussion series (3847295)
10.35 This Morning. Weekday magazine presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes dressmaking hints and a phone-in on family health. With national and international news at **10.55** and regional news at **11.55** followed by national weather (64277910) **12.10 The Riddlers.** For the young (9959194)
12.30 Lunchtime News. (Teletext) Weather (7607213) **1.05 London Today** and weather (64944200)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Teletext) (658484) **1.45 A Country Practice.** Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (657755)
2.15 TV Weekly. Anne Diamond with her weekly look behind the scenes of popular ITV and Channel 4 programmes (649736) **2.45 Take the High Road.** Highlands-based drama serial (7026533)
3.10 ITN News headlines (9572674) **3.15 London Today** and weather (9571945) **3.20 Blockbusters.** General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness (s) (4050115)
3.50 The Ratties. Animation (r) (9513736) **3.55 Where's Wally?** A new animated series (9378465) **4.20 Mike and Angelo.** Children's American comedy drama series (s) (8791945) **4.45 Bad Influence!** Computer games magazine (3251649)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (3727113)
5.40 Early Evening News. (Teletext) Weather (894755)
6.00 London Tonight (98259)
7.00 Emmerdale. Soap set in the Yorkshire Dales. (Teletext) (1543)
7.30 Storyline. A new topical investigative television series (s) (533)
8.00 The Bill: Fact of Life? The boys in blue of Sun Hill are the victims of a sting. (Teletext) (9281)
8.30 Minder: I'll Never Forget Whatsername.
● CHOICE: The Arthur Daley saga has been running for 14 years and nearly 100 episodes but shows no sign of outstaying its welcome. The original minder, Dennis Waterman, has been smoothly replaced by Gary Webster, and Nicholas Day is easing in nicely as the permanently frustrated cop. George Cole's performance is so good that it tends to be taken for granted but the essential thing is the quality of the writing. Despite being penned by several hands, the scripts are of an astonishingly even standard, remaining true to the spirit of the show while never allowing the formula to stale. William Ivory wrote tonight's tale in which Arthur is trying to shift a load of karaoke tapes, the Winchester is staging a quiz night and the police are looking for an absconder. Kenneth Cranham enjoys himself as a stubble-chinned villain. (Teletext) (78649)



Raconteur: the irreverent comedian Dave Allen (9.30pm)

9.30 Dave Allen. The first of a new series of one-man comedy shows with a minimum of props — just a stage, a chair and refreshment within arm's length (s) (48754)
10.00 News at Ten. (Teletext) Weather (71303) **10.30 London Tonight** and weather (728823)
10.40 Big City. A new weekly guide to London and the south-east's entertainment scene, presented by Gordon Kennedy and Carolyn Marshall (s) (249736)
11.15 Film: Hang 'Em High (1967) starring Clint Eastwood. Revenge western with Eastwood as a man who is saved from a lynch mob and appointed a deputy in a particularly lawless part of Oklahoma. He then launches a crusade to get even with the nine men who tried to lynch him. Directed by Ted Post (44966277)
1.30 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (33576)
2.00 America's Top Ten (s) (31779)
2.30 Donahue. Urban ghetto young people have their say (51392)
3.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents. A tale of suspense (34866)
4.00 Entertainment UK. Leisure-time guide (r) (s) (27359)
5.00 Riviera. French drama serial (97798)
5.30 ITN Morning News (81971). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.40 Spiff and Hercules (2525649) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (66656)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show (s) (85552)
9.30 Film: Romeo and Juliet (1936, b/w) starring Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard. George Cukor's Oscar-nominated version of Shakespeare's tragedy about two teenage lovers (74655587)
11.45 Joe McDoakes. Vintage comic short (4021842)
12.00 Profiles of Nature. The bluebirds of the eastern Rocky mountains (78216) **12.30 Sesame Street** (41007) **1.30 Lift Off** (13823)
2.00 Film: Mother Wore Tights (1947) starring Betty Grable and Dan Dailey. Musical tale about the life and times of a vaudeville family. Directed by Walter Lang (801484)
3.55 A Day in the Life Of... The comedian Phil Cool prepares for another performance at the Victoria Hall, Hanley (s) (9301246)
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (674)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Children trawl Chicago for husbands for their single mothers (2961007)
5.50 The Magic Roundabout (r) (400246)
6.00 Rosey and Buddy. Animation with the voice of Roseanne Arnold (r) (939)
6.30 Gamesmaster. Video and computer games show (991)
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) Weather (296736) **7.50 Comment** (458945)
8.00 O. Winston Link. A profile of the celebrated 1950s photographer who specialised in steam trains (r) (9533)
9.00 The Sexual Imperative: The Importance of Sex
● CHOICE: Do not be misled by the opening sequence in which a leggy blonde strides through a London street turning male heads every other second. We may, as the commentary says, be obsessed with sex but this six-part series is more a biology lesson that a prurient gaze at the female form. And in tonight's opening instalment, at least, it is much more about animals than humans. We could almost be watching one of Sir David Attenborough's wildlife documentaries, except that the narrator is Hannah Gordon. Sex is certainly the theme but it does not have quite the same ring when applied to pigmy chimps in the Zaire rainforest, or sea horses or the praying mantis. The photography, as with most natural history programmes, is superb but even so the reproductive habits of the animal kingdom can begin to pall (s) (9397)



Topical bulletins: the satirical news team returns (10.00pm)

10.00 Drop the Dead Donkey. The first of a new series of the award-winning comedy set in the newsroom of a television station. With Alex having moved on to other things, Gus and George have the job of finding her replacement. The office bookie begins to take bets on who it will be (s) (79945)
10.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? Comedy improvisation from the quick-witted Clive Anderson (r) (s) (241194)
11.05 The Avengers (b/w). The first of 12 repeat episodes of the classic 1960s adventure series starring Patrick MacNee and Ian Hendry (868620)
12.10am Dispatches. A repeat of yesterday's documentary about why men visit prostitutes (2408885)
1.00 The Dick Powell Theatre: Doyle Against the House starring Milton Berle and Jan Sterling. A reformed cardsharp is tempted to return to his old ways in order to raise money for his daughter's operation (r) (6537381). Ends at **1.55**

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VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (4050115) **5.10-5.40** Stars of Tomorrow (3727113) **6.00** Home and Away (3706533) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (612945)**10.40** Anglia Tonight (202194) **11.10** Widescangle (189910) **11.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (481910) **12.35** Coach (1801088) **1.05** Wrestling (2602868) **1.45** Film: Stagecoach (42010601) **3.55** America's Top Ten (5264243) **4.30** Riviera (17040) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (97798)

BORDER
As London except: 2.45-3.10 Wild World of the East (7028533) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (4050115) **6.00** Lookaround (397) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (649) **10.40** From Rio To Liverpool (946636) **11.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (481910) **12.35** Coach (1801088) **1.05** Wrestling (91533359) **1.50** Film: Stagecoach (48442359) **3.55** America's Top Ten (5264243) **4.30** Riviera (17040) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (97798)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (658484) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (657755) **3.20-3.50** GP (4050115) **5.10-5.40** The New Adventures of Black Beauty (3727113) **6.00** Home and Away (370533) **6.25-7.00** Central News (388552) **10.40** Married...With Children (202194) **11.10** Miller and Mueller (146200) **12.05** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (19122224) **12.35** Hollywood Report (1801088) **1.05** The Little Picture Show (9893088) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2544359) **2.35** America's Top Ten (8879773) **3.05** Stage 2 (5985330) **4.05** Sprockets (9869392) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder (9573427)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (658484) **1.45-2.15** Home and Away (657755) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (4050115) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (3727113) **6.00** Home and Away (397) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (649) **10.40** Families (291705) **11.35** Visual Search (960007) **12.05** Married...with Children (1912224) **12.35** Coach (1801088) **1.05** Wrestling (91533359) **1.50** Film: Stagecoach (48442359) **3.55** America's Top Ten (5264243) **4.30** Riviera (17040) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (97798)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (657755) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (4050115) **6.00** HTV News (397) **6.30-7.00** West By Wedlock (649) **10.40** The West This Week (986755) **11.25** HTV Weekend Outlook (111129) **12.05** Prisoner: Cell Block H (1455750) **1.05** Wrestling (91533359) **1.50** Film: Stagecoach (48442359) **3.55** America's Top Ten (5264243) **4.30** Riviera (17040) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (97798)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** Stars Of Tomorrow **10.40** Welsh National Business Awards **11.40** The Weekend Ahead **11.55-12.05** Out Of Limits

MERIDIAN
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (4050115) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (397) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (649) **10.40** Schools Report — the First Meridian Audit (936216) **11.20** Prisoner: Cell Block H (142484) **12.15** War of the Worlds (2612243) **1.15-1.30** Rock Sport (2786408) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (97798)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 3.20-3.50 The Young Doctors (4050115) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (397) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (649) **10.40** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (2021194) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (146200) **12.05** Film: Salem's Lot (468359) **2.05** America's Top Ten (2544359) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8879773) **3.05** Shimanski (1357885) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (15514)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45-2.15 Blockbusters (657755) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (4050115) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (982598) **10.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (202194) **11.35** Beyond 2000 **12.45** Out Of Limits **1.50** Film: Stagecoach (48442359) **3.55** America's Top Ten (5264243) **4.30** Riviera (17040) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (977698)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 3.20-3.50, The Young Doctors (4050115) **5.55** Calendar (368587) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (649) **10.40** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (202194) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (146200) **12.05** Film: Salem's Lot (468359) **2.05** America's Top Ten (2544359) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (8879773) **3.05** Schimanski (1357885) **4.30-5.30** Jobfinder (15514)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (66856) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (85552) **9.30** Film: Romeo and Juliet (74655587) **11.45** Joe McDoakes (4021842) **12.00** Profiles of Nature (78216) **12.30** Slot Mathrin (14552) **1.00** Tony Jacklin's Pro-Celebrity Golf Challenge (19007) **2.00** Film: National Velvet (46794736) **4.15** Sweet Memories (9807991) **4.25** Slot 23 (3851674) **5.00** Famous People...Famous Places... (8939) **5.30** Gamesmaster (246) **6.00** News (747281) **6.10** Heno (829620) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (4303) **7.30** Margaret Williams (303) **8.00** Taith 3 (7823) **8.30** News (966574) **8.55** Taro 9 (504741) **9.30** The Rise and Fall of Elephant Marsh (48736) **10.00** Drop the Dead Donkey (79945) **10.30** Film: Wish You Were Here..? (52828397) **12.10** Runrig (1453663) **1.10** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (46379026) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (8975262) **9.10** Cartoons (1061910) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (69026) **10.00** Strike It Rich (84002) **10.30** The Bold and the Beautiful (38656) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (45007) **12.00** Falcon Crest (59649) **1.00pm** E Street (49823) **1.30** Another World (5254295) **2.15** Santa Barbara (270620) **2.45** Maude (279991) **3.15** The New Leave It To Beaver (276904) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (6852910) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3026) **6.00** Rescue (3718) **6.30** E Street (1910) **7.00** Alf (4755) **7.30** Family Ties (7194) **8.00** Full House (8303) **8.30** Melrose Place (27858) **9.30** Chances (33755) **10.30** Studs (39397) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (59200) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
Twenty-four hour news service

SKY MOVIES+
6.00am Showcase (4917674)
10.00 Kiss Shot (1989): Whoopi Goldberg plays pool (47858)
12.00 Skulduggery (1970): Burt Reynolds and Susan Clark discover a tribe of ape-like pygmies (191484)
1.55pm The Odessa File (1974): Frederick Forsyth's thriller (24803303)
4.00 Flight from Ashiya (1964): Three pilots attempt a daredevil rescue (1858)
6.00 Kiss Shot (as 10am) (43287945)
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (387858)
8.00 Wings of the Apache (1990): Helicopter adventure in the *Top Gun* mould (60910)
10.00 Graveyard Shift (1990): Rats are killing textile workers (234200)
11.35 A Girl to Kill For (1989): Karen Medak seduces Sasha Jenson (773262)
1.05am Keaton's Cop (1990): Lee Majors guards a Mob witness (530088)
2.40 Hardcase and Fist (1988): Martial arts thriller starring Ted Prior (858224)
4.15 "Til Murder Do Us Part (1992): Meredith Baxter stars in the true story of a scorned wife (3032448). Ends at **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.15pm Abba — The Movie (1977): The Swedish group on tour in Australia (86755)
8.00 The First Deadly Sin (1980): Frank Sinatra tracks a serial killer (69107849)
9.55 Priest of Love (1981): Ian McKellen as D.H. Lawrence (96568718). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
7.00am The Adventures of Milo and Otis (1989): Children's film (35674).
9.00 A Perilous Journey (1953, b/w): A group of women set to California (14649)
11.00 Ghost in the Invisible Bikini (1966): Comedy starring Boris Karloff (72723)
1.00pm The Idol (1966): Jennifer Jones tells for her son's best friend (18455)
3.00 The Adventures of Milo and Otis (as 7am) (25026)
5.00 Lions for Breakfast (1976): Two brothers camp overnight in a safari park (26823)
7.00 Testament (1983): Post-nuclear war survival drama (53026)
9.00 Home Alone (1990): Macaulay Culkin foils two burglars (97823)
11.00 Flight of the Black Angel (1990): A jet pilot holds a city to ransom (201007)
12.45am Track 29 (1988): Theresa Russell has an affair with Gary Oldman, who claims to be her son (116156)
2.20 The Guardian (1990): Jenny Seagrove as an evil nanny (55120446)
5.00 Under Two Flags (1936, b/w): Ronald Colman is torn between two women (95311392). Ends at **6.40**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Morning Stretch (53552) **7.00** Australian Super Skins Golf 1992 (77674) **9.00** Morning Stretch (88216) **9.30** Muscle Night (89668) **10.30** Ringside Theatre (34674) **11.30** Morning Stretch (29151) **12.00** NHRA Drag Racing (95552) **12.30pm** The Club Show (20736) **1.00** Ringside (85397) **3.00** US PGA Golf Preview (45858) **5.00** High Five (6991) **5.30** Fishing the West (5945) **6.00** Soccer News (706574) **6.03** WWF Primetime Wrestling (78910) **7.30** Red Line (75026) **8.30** The Boot Room (63620) **9.30** The Club Show (33200) **10.00** Soccer News [214397] **10.03** Netbusters (96281) *10.30 European League Round-Up* (27571) **11.30** Ringside Theatre (56910) **12.30-1.00am** NHRA Drag Racing (44595)

EUROSPORT
8.00am Step Aerobics (87533) **8.30** Hopman Cup Tennis (80026) **10.30** Step Aerobics (48228) **11.00** American College Basketball (43378) **12.30pm** Boxing (64849) **2.00** Hopman Cup Tennis (600485) **5.00** Show Jumping (89723) **7.00** Trans World Sport (39194) **8.00** Basketball (47942) **9.00** Eurosport News (16484) **9.30** Tennis (79200) **11.30-12.00** Eurosport News (68484)

SCREENSPORT
7.00am Men's Volleyball (62533) **8.00** Stuttgart Horse Show (53262) **9.00** PBA Ten Pin Bowling (84571) **10.00** World Cup Skiing (81823) **11.00** Paris-Dakar Rally (79674) **11.30** NBA Basketball (48842) **1.30pm** European Snooker League 1993 (28281) **3.30** Paris-Dakar Rally (4216) **4.00** ASP Surfing (9133) **4.30** Men's Volleyball (12649)
5.30 Indy Car Review 1992 (77552) **7.30** Motorsport (73668) **8.30** Paris-Dakar Rally (2552) **9.00** Spanish Football (30592) **10.00** Football France (94823) **10.30** Football Europe (98741) **11.00** Paris-Dakar Rally (97303) **11.30** Pro Kick (54552) **12.30-1.00am** Football France (42137)

LIFESTYLE
10.00am The Spiral Zone (60842) **10.30** The Rush Limbaugh Show (97910) **11.00** Gloss (84262) **11.30** The Joan Rivers Show (60575938) **12.15pm** Sally Jessy Raphael (13831113) **1.10** Lunchbox (77546736) **1.40** Sell-a-Vision (42467194) **2.10** Family Tree (96567767) **3.00** The New Newlywed Game (7484) **3.30** The Bill Dana Show (6484) **4.00** Dick Van Dyke Show (6981) **4.30** American Gameshows (51755) **5.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (21465) **7.00** Sell-a-Vision (3278920) **10.00** Jukebox Music Videos (1784587) **2.30-3.00am** Top Five (40040)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (57248216) **6.15** Chorlton and the Wheelies (57163571) **6.30** Rude Dog and the Dweebs (93277129) **7.00** Bravestarr (2617007) **7.30** Neighbours (2629842) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (5345858) **8.30** EastEnders (5344129) **9.00** The Bill (5255261) **9.30** The Onedin Line (8590823) **10.30** Juliet Bravo (5251939) **11.30** Terry and June (2685179) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (5348945) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7937434) **1.00** EastEnders (2816378) **1.30** The Bill (7936755) **2.00** 'Allo 'Allo! (1251552) **2.30** French Fields: Home and Away (7039991) **3.00** Dallas: Second Thoughts (8065115) **4.00** Braveheart (7053571) **4.30** Degrassi Junior High (7059755) **5.00** Neighbours (1242804) **5.30** Dr Who: The War Machines (7040007) **6.00** The Onedin Line (7018303) **7.00** 'Allo 'Allo! (1262668) **7.30** Terry and June (7050484) **8.00** EastEnders (1344216) **8.30** French Fields (1250823) **9.00** Juliet Bravo (1126674) **10.00** The Bill (5349874) **10.30** Carrott Confidential (5252194) **11.00** The Goodies (9611259) **11.30** Film: The Outfit (1974) starring Robert Duvall, Karen Black and Joe Don Baker (3078194) **1.00-1.30am** Video Bites (6440446)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air, with Andrew Lyle. Including Vaughan Williams (The Lark Ascending: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Neville Marriner, with Iona Brown, violin); Poulenc (Trio for oboe, bassoon and piano: Maurice Bourgue, oboe, Amaury Wallez, bassoon, Pascal Rogé, piano); Gershwin (Rhapsody in Blue: Montreal SO under Charles Dutoit, with Louis Lortie, piano); Dvořák (Serenade for Wind in D minor, Op 44: Nash Ensemble)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Richard Strauss. Peter Alward talks about recording the music of Strauss. With excerpts from Der Rosenkavalier (Dresden Staatskapelle under Bernard Haitink); Elektra (Vienna PO under Georg Solti); Ein Heldenleben (New York PO under Willem Mengelberg)
10.25 Morning Sequence: English Sinfonia under Edward Downes and Charles Groves performs Malcolm Arnold (Sinfonietta No 1); Tchaikovsky (Andante Cantabile); David Matthews (From Sea to Sky); Vivaldi (Concerto in F, Op 10 No 1: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Iona Brown); Delius (On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring); Butterworth (The Banks of Green Willow); Vivaldi (Concerto in D, Op 10 No 3, Il Gardellino); David Bedford (In Plymouth Town); Handel (Water Music — excerpts)
12.00 Messiaen (r) **1.00pm News**
1.05 The Makropoulos Case: Vienna State Opera Chorus; Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra under Charles Mackerras perform Janáček's opera, based on a play by Karel Capek, about an immortal woman who wants to die. With Elisabeth Söderström as Emilia Marty and Peter Dvorsky as Albert Gregor
3.25 Beethoven Cello Music: Alexander Baillie, cello; Martin Roscoe, piano, perform Sonata in F, Op 5 No 1; Sonata in C, Op 102 No 1 (r)
4.15 BBC Welsh SO under Andrew Mogrelia performs Busoni, arr John Adams (Berceuse élégiaque, Op 42); Berber (Violin Concerto: Tasmin Little); Ives, orch William Schuman (Variations on America)
5.00 In Tune, with David Owen Norris, whose guest is the pianist Andras Schiff
7.30 Beethoven — Missa Solemnis: Colin Davis conducts the Bavarian Radio Chorus and Orchestra, with soloists Luba Organasova, Jadwiga Rappe, Uwe Heilmann and Hendrik Rootering
● CHOICE: Of the *Kyrie* in his glorious Mass, Beethoven wrote: "Let it flow from my heart to the heart of all men". He could have said the same thing of any part of the Mass, which stands alongside Bach's in B minor as a pinnacle of sacred music. To hear it is to understand why Anton Schindler, Beethoven's biographer, wrote: "I never saw Beethoven in such a state of absolute detachment from the terrestrial world as when he composed the *Missa Solemnis*."
9.10 Seneca's Letters: Paul Scofield reads from the letters of Seneca to Lucilius
9.35 Haydn and Weir: Endellion Quartet performs Haydn (Quartet in C, Op 54 No 2); Weir (String Quartet) (r)
10.15 Bunk and Bill: Bill Russell on trumpeter Bunk Johnson (r)
10.45 Night Waves: Robert Hewison reports on Antwerp, this year's European City of Culture; and Elvis Costello and the Brodsky Quartet perform live
11.30 Fernando Sor: Montserrat Figueras, soprano, José Miguel Moreno, guitar, perform Prepárame la tumba; De amor en las prisiones; Si dicas que mis ojos; Las mujeres y cuerdas, Seguidillas; Introduction and variations on the air Marlborough for solo guitar; Ti ricordi che giurasti; Povero cor t'inganni; lo mentitor; Perduta l'anima, Arietta Italiane; Introduction and variations on Mozart's O cara armonia for solo guitar; Casa de atormentarme; El que quisiera amando; Muchacha ya la verguenza, Seguidillas; Las quejas de Maruja
12.30-12.35am News

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.43** The Lost Continent, by Bill Bryson (9/10) (s) **8.58** Weather **9.00 News**
9.05 Face the Facts (r)
9.30 Two People
● CHOICE: Colin Semper's series describes men and women on the horns of the same dilemma. These are therapeutic programmes if only because they remind all of us that there is nothing exclusive about any one person's predicament. Semper begins with the cases of Charlotte, a police officer, and Sarah, an educational consultant. They are lesbians. Charlotte has publicly declared her sexual bias; Sarah is contemplating doing so, though she does not reveal whether she did, after all, invite her friends to tune in this morning to learn her secret
10.00-10.30am News; Gentleman and Ladies (FM only): First of a five-part dramatisation of Susan Hill's novel (s)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 Paradise Regained: John Milton's sequel to *Paradise Lost* (5/6)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Marilyn Stowe talks about her book, *Divorce — A New Beginning*. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm Boogie Up the River: Written and adapted by Mark Wellington (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) (s) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; The Billion Dollar Carp, by Nick McCarty. Charles MacKenzie (Bernard Hollely) loses his advertising job and invests his redundancy money in Uncle Hamish's Scottish fish farm (s)
3.00 News; Against the Grain: Pat Kane argues: "Work is an unnecessary evil." Anne Marie Hourihane awaits your calls on 071-580 4444
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews Camille Paglia's book *Sex, Art and American Culture*; and a production by Adventures in Motion Pictures of *Fitzrovia*, at the Lyric Hammersmith, London; listens to the jazz saxophonist Jan Garbarek; and looks at the work of Vladimir Sulwagin (s)
4.45 Short Story: Mother and Daughter, by Michael McLaverty. Read by Barbara Adair
5.00 PM 5.50 Weather **5.55** Shipping Forecast
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 The Harpoon: Second in a series of back issues (r) (s)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers (s)
7.20 Don't Tell Anyone But ... Gill Pyrah eavesdrops on how and why people gossip (s)
8.00 Wide Awake in Ireland: The Irish writer John Waters reflects on his country and its future (1/3) (s)
8.45 Does He Take Sugar? with Ted Harrison. For disabled listeners
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r) (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White (s) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Alexander MacLeod (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The Doctor's Family, by Margaret Oliphant. Abridged and read by Morag Hood (9/10)
11.00 Fear on Four: Edward De Souza, the Man in Black, introduces *Dark Feathers*, by Denise Sims. A composer returns to her native Dorset to complete an opera and takes drastic action to stop the birds from disturbing her concentration. With Emily Rich

FA commission meets at Lancaster Gate

Fearful Wright faces up to his day of decision

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

IAN Wright has an appointment at Lancaster Gate this afternoon that may affect his international career. The Football Association will decide whether the Arsenal and England forward aimed a punch at David Howells, of Tottenham Hotspur, during the north London derby last month.

Wright, 29, has been charged with misconduct by the FA and if found guilty, could face a lengthy suspension or a hefty fine.

Since the referee, Alf Buksh, did not spot the incident and merely gave Wright and Howells a talking to, it is more likely that Wright will incur no more than a three-match ban.

That is the standard sanction that would have been automatically applied had Buksh sent off Wright. Yet with England due to meet San Marino in a World Cup qualifying match at Wembley on February 17, a suspension could reduce his chances of playing.

Wright has yet to score a goal for England in five internationals and his temperament has frequently been cited as an argument against his selection.

A year ago, he was fined £1,500 for allegedly spitting at an Oldham Athletic supporter and he has also been spotted making allegedly inflammatory gestures to crowds.

While Graham Taylor, the England manager, has complete control over team affairs, the FA has the power to overrule selection of a player if it feels his behaviour, on or off the field, is unsuitable.

There is no suggestion that this will be the case with Wright but a 29-year-old who has failed to score for his country could do without adverse publicity about attitude problems, not to mention another suspension.

Wright's case has been compared with that of Paul Davis, an Arsenal team-mate whose international career foundered four years ago after he was banned for nine games and fined £3,000 for breaking the jaw of Glenn Cockerill, the Southampton player, during a match.

However, such comparisons may be misleading. In the Davis case, the punch was found to be premeditated and the damage significant.

Howells was unhurt by what appeared to be a heat-of-the-moment flare-up with Wright.

Wright is expected to be accompanied, and defended, by George Graham, the Arsenal manager, who is shortly due to face a disciplinary commission himself.

He has been charged with misconduct for remarks made to Buksh in the same match.

Despite Graham's reputation as a strict disciplinarian, Arsenal players have accrued 27 bookings already this season.

Any ban for Wright will almost certainly have expired before the San Marino match but, in any case, domestic supensions do not apply to the international arena. Wright would, though, be almost certain to miss Arsenal's fourth-round FA Cup tie against either Leeds United or Charlton Athletic later this month.

Vinnie Jones's appeal against his record £20,000 FA fine, due to be heard next Wednesday, has been postponed. Wimbledon asked for the hearing to be rearranged because they will be travelling back from the previous night's FA Cup third-round replay against Everton at Goodison Park.

The FA agreed to Wimbledon's request and have not yet fixed a new date. Jones was found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute for his part in a video, *Soccer's Hard Men*.

☐ Leeds United were beaten 2-0 by Internacionale in a 45-minute match in Florence yesterday.

Inter hardly broke sweat as they comfortably contained the England champions in the opening match of the three-club round-robin competition.

Ruben Sosa, the forward, gave the Leeds defence severe problems and was behind both goals.

After controlling a cross on his chest by the penalty spot, the Uruguayan international teased Chris Whyte before stroking the ball sideways for Nicola Berti to finish with a precise shot into the top corner.

Inter got their second when, catching the Leeds defence square, Sosa played in Darko Pancev. The former Red Star Belgrade forward hammered a low right-foot shot past Day.

It was the first goal Pancev had scored for the club since signing last year.



Cutting a dash: Keith Gillespie, 17, who gave a fine display against Bury on Tuesday, when he scored in Manchester United's 2-0 win. Report, page 42

ICC decision on Gooch is plainly unfair

Jack Bailey advises against a rewriting of the record books to deprive Graham Gooch of a century scored in South Africa

THE statement issued by the Test and County Cricket Board, after consultation with the secretary of the International Cricket Council — who bear responsibility for such matters — indicating that Graham Gooch's hundred for an unauthorised England XI against South Africa in 1981-2 should no longer be considered first-class, has caused pandemonium; which is understandable, with Gooch on the brink of a century of centuries.

By implication, a rewriting of the record books will be necessary. Not only Gooch, but a considerable number of other batsmen, bowlers and catchers would be found to have been living a lie; and *Wisden*, the bible of cricket, would require an apocrypha.

The inconvenience to Gooch of having to score an extra hundred just to make sure he had achieved the magical century of centuries would be as nothing beside the general ramifications of such a decision. But I doubt strongly that such a verdict has been validly given.

The only people capable of rewriting history are the members of ICC; and they have not been consulted. Their rules state specifically that in the event of any dispute the matter should be referred for decision to the members of ICC; and with South Africa now one of them, dispute there surely must be. If I were the editor of *Wisden*, going to press in a few days' time, I would alter nothing. Chances are that the opinion — no more — passed by a hard-pressed secretary of ICC, will not be upheld. A meeting of ICC is scheduled for February and if, as they should, the delegates consider the matter in depth, they must surely maintain the status quo.

Ever since the South Africans ceased to be members of ICC in 1961, their own assessment of what constitutes first-class cricket in their country has been upheld by the whole world of cricket.

The basis on which matches are judged has invariably been gauged by the quality of the players taking part. Gooch and the others on the 1981-2 tour were first-class players by any definition. The moral stance of that particular tour at that particular time was open to criticism and received it. The status of the matches was never queried.

The suggestion has been made that all this has something to do with South Africa not being members of ICC at the time. Heaven forbid. If that were the case, the status of all Test matches between England and South Africa and Australia and South Africa, played between 1961 and 1970, would be in doubt — as would all South Africa's concurrent internal cricket.

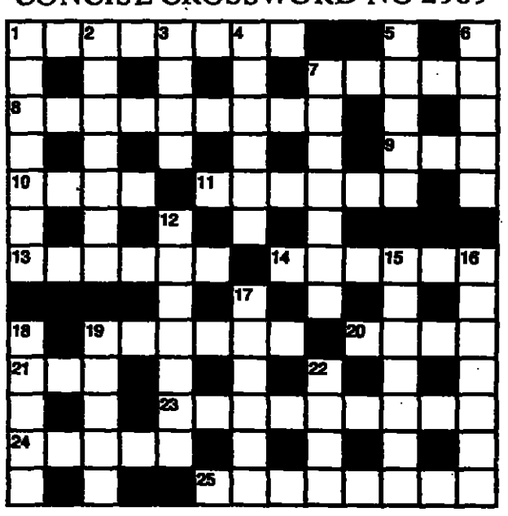
The only time, to my knowledge, that the ICC acted in response to the morality rather than the cricketing merit of players involved in unauthorised matches was when it declared, before the outset, that Packer's World Series Cricket matches would not be considered first-class. To issue such a statement before a series is one thing; to do so more than ten years after an event is quite another.



Bailey: call for rethink

Jack Bailey was secretary of both MCC and the ICC from 1974 to 1987.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2989



ACROSS
1 Run of three (3,5)
7 S African plains (5)
8 Greek philosopher (9)
9 Mongrel (3)
10 Wise man (4)
11 Lookalike (6)
13 Under-but ball (6)
14 Dashboard panel (6)
19 Sheriff's aide (6)
20 Wound (4)
21 Conflict (3)
23 Not repentant (9)
24 Drying cloth (5)
25 Early spring flower (4,4)

DOWN
1 Rumour (7)
2 Roy Rogers horse (7)
3 Scale (4)
4 Textile crop (6)
5 Location (5)
6 "Baby bringing" bird (5)
7 Word to the wise (4,3)
12 Obliging (7)
15 Exam prep school (7)
16 With weapons (5,2)
17 Reach (6)
18 Scythe strip (5)
19 Speak slowly (5)
22 Masticate (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 2988

ACROSS: 7 Logo 8 Even pace 9 Ulster 10 Shimmy 11 Swim 12 Polyglot 15 Aperitif 17 Lack 18 Stated 21 Basque 22 Cauldron 23 Ruse

DOWN: 1 Follow up 2 Bottom 3 Decrepit 4 Mews 5 Spying 6 Scam 13 Left bank 14 Of course 16 Rattle 17 Lustre 19 Thaw 20 Dark

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WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is from the game Short — Halifman, Germany 1991. Can white do better than move his queen? On January 10, Nigel Short's Candidate's Final match against Jan Timman starts in El Escorial, near Madrid. Watch out for daily reports in *The Times*.

Solution on page 39.

WORD-WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD

DRACK
a. A miniature bulldozer
b. Unattractive
c. To track with dogs

WAND
a. To scan a bar code
b. A loose woman
c. A loose undergarment

Answers on page 39

SNOWDROP
a. A drug peddlar
b. A military policeman
c. To eavesdrop electronically

ANGARY
a. Extremely cross
b. A heart attack
c. Right to destroy property

Rangers favourites to sign Durie

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

LIVERPOOL have offered Tottenham Hotspur money plus Ronny Rosenthal for Gordon Durie, but the Scottish international forward is more likely to end up signing for Rangers. Should Spurs be prepared to part with Durie but not want Rosenthal, they could choose an alternative from Mark Wright, Michael Thomas and Paul Stewart — the latter having left Tottenham for Liverpool only last summer.

Graeme Souness, the Liverpool manager, is prepared to offer Spurs a package worth £3 million for the player he wants to partner Ian Rush. Tottenham are believed to be willing to part with Durie for the right price. Durie cost them £2.5 million from Chelsea 18 months ago, but he has been omitted recently from the first team because of his "attitude".

The problem is believed to stem partly from the trauma surrounding his recent successful appeal to the Football Association against a charge of feigning injury and partly from the fact that Durie has not settled in London.

He has repeatedly expressed his hope of returning to his native Glasgow to play for Rangers, but Tottenham last month rejected a £1.5 million offer for Durie from the Scottish champions. Short of Scottish strikers for their forthcoming European Cup games, it is expected Rangers will increase their offer.

Wright, Thomas, Stewart and Rosenthal have cost Liverpool millions of pounds but none can command a regular place at Anfield and Souness is under pressure to sell.

Durie, 27, scored 12 goals in 46 appearances for Tottenham last season and four in 18 games since August.

Richard Money, the former Liverpool and Fulham defender, was yesterday appointed manager of Scunthorpe United, the third division club. Money, 37, who has been the youth coach at Aston Villa for the last three years, succeeds Bill Green, who was dismissed this week.

Money started his career as a player with Scunthorpe then moving to Craven Cottage and Anfield before returning to Scunthorpe, where he also had a spell as caretaker coach. He was later appointed Scunthorpe's youth coach before moving to Villa.

Swansea City have signed Martin Hayes, the former England under-21 player, from Celtic on a free transfer. Signed by the Scottish club from Arsenal for £650,000 in 1990, Hayes played only a handful of games for Celtic, spending this season in the reserves after recovering from a broken leg in April.

"My career never took off at Celtic. I've tried Scotland, now I'm hoping Wales will be just the place to kick-start my career once again," said Hayes. He is expected to make his debut in the second division match against Fulham on Saturday.

☐ The long-delayed World Cup qualifying match between Angola and Zimbabwe is to take place Luanda on Sunday, despite the resumption of fierce fighting in the south of the country.

Because of the civil war, many international airlines have suspended flights to Angola and the Zimbabwean team is having to charter a Boeing 737 from its national airline, Air Zimbabwe. *(AFP)*

MCC defends England tour selectors

BY IVO TENNANT

THE members of MCC who are forcing an extraordinary general meeting of the club later this month have been strongly criticised by its committee for attacking the integrity of the England cricket selectors.

The club's 17,400 members are due to receive today a paper from the committee urging them to vote against a motion of no confidence in the selectors for excluding David Gower and Jack Russell from England's tour of India. The committee's stance is that this is an attack not on the judgment but on the probity of those who chose the party.

In particular, the committee criticises two issues raised by the signatories, whose viewpoint — deliberately leaked last week — is also included in MCC's mailing. Both points continue to be widely debated in the run-up to the extraordinary meeting, which will be held at the Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, on January 27.

"The first claims that there can have been no good cricketing grounds for the omission of David Gower from the party to tour India, and that he must therefore have been left out for a discreditable reason, such as a grudge," the committee states.

"The deliberations of the selectors invariably have been and always should be conducted on a basis of confidentiality. To draw an inference of bad faith from a silence that is best not broken is unworthy and unfair. It also implies that Mr Gooch and Mr Fletcher are not primarily concerned with achieving the best possible results. This, of course, is nonsense.

"The second point concerns the selection of players who went to South Africa. The period of the disqualification of these players from international cricket was stipulated, and eventually terminated, by the International Cricket Council. As a result, the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) — namely England — is bound by its ruling.

"If the selectors had imposed their own additional suspension and excluded them from consideration, they would have broken faith with the international cricket community and imposed an illegal restraint on the players concerned."

The committee says that even when constitutionally MCC's was the prevailing influence in the choice of the England side, there was seldom an occasion when its decisions met with universal approval. "In such matters it is hardly possible to satisfy everyone. The club can ask no more of the TCCB than that they should appoint selectors of wide experience who are respected in the game and give of their honest best."

The signatories claim they are not calling the extraordinary meeting with a view to reversing the selectors' decision.

"Our interest in pursuing this course is to give all MCC members an opportunity to hear or express a view about the manifest deficiencies in the system of selection, the style of the England team management and about the damage we believe these are doing to the game," the signatories say.

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S Africa take series, page 39

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